WESTMINSTER planners have criticised proposals for a new pier next to Westminster Bridge even before it officially goes to the planning committee later this month.

They have claimed it doesn't fit in, it could obstruct views of St Paul's end it is too commer-

cinl.
The Thames Water Authority wants to build the competitionwinning entry from Cambridge architects Clive Nicholson Associates to replace the old wooden Westminster pier.

This is the latest episode in a series of liascos which have afflicted altempts to design a pier for the site.

The original competitionwinning design was shelved in favour of a scheme by GLC architects, which has itself been

heering,

back fces.

Theaction was brought by the

Keniaton Housing Association in connection with work done by a firm of Lombeth-based archi-

lects, Design 5.
The firm designed two housing schemes, in Orpington, Kent, and at Southend.

One of the partners in Design 5, a Mr Saunders, was also a

chairman of the housing asso-

ciation until 1976 and on the

board for a following year.
The firm was dismissed as

architects in November 1982,

and sued for nearly £90,000 in

claim for £14 million for negli-

gence in design and supervision

architects claimed before Judge

By BD Reporter

David Smout QC that they could not be held liable for these

They said that the DoE was

liable to reimburse the Housing

Corporation for the "actual

cost" of the schemes, 330 and

734 dwellings respectively, and

this would include any remedial

Therefore, it was claimed, the

housing association had suf-

fered no loss recoverable as

But Judge Smout rejected the architects' contention, "They

Cracks spark

Rotherham

block probe

A GOVERNMENT benefit office in Rotherham which is less

than 20 years old may have to be

closed down because of atruc-

Large cracks have been dis-covered in the floors of the

Department of Heelth & Social

Security premises in Moorgate.

The PSA hea commissioned e

consultant engineer to investi-

gate the structural condition of

the building.
The DHSS has confirmed

that all storeys of the building may have to be cleared while

tural defects.

In a preliminary heoring, the

#### Work goes on show

THE following displays of student work are on show: Architectural Association school of architecture projects review 1985-86, July 5-August 9. Details: 01-636 0974; Kingston school of architecture degree and diploma shows, July 8-9. Detoils: 01-549 6151 (ext 292); Buckinghamshire College of Higher Education school of art and design, furniture and tim-ber, July 5, 7-10. Details: (0494) 22141; Canterbury school of architecture degree ond diploma show, July 8-10. Details: (0227) 69371.

#### Suspended

CAMBRIDGE architect Keith Ellis has been suspended from the Arcuk register for six years for disgraceful conduct.

Ellis was last year found guilty at the Centrel Criminal Court on three counts of perjury. He was sentenced to two years imprisonment with 18 months

#### Moonshine

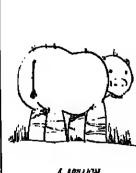
not only challenge conventional SOIL samples from the moon assumptions but involve rehave been used to produce markable implications," he concrete 5 per ceni atronger declared. "Monies paid by way of government funding are fun-damentally different in charac-

than its terreatrial equivalent. NASA scientists hopethis will ellow building materials to be produced in situ if permanent basea are set up on the moon.

#### Army game

BRECKLAND council in Norfolk has approved Army plans to build a mock East German village for practice battle man-

... signing off...



# **Architects** lose legal argument

tecta against a claim for £14 million demages has been rejected in a preliminary court

"The purpose of the housing association grant is to provide housing for the needy and it is not to be used to relieve pro-fessional advisers from the financial consequences of

contract and negligence."

The action against Design 5 for the £14 million therefore

RHWL

ter and in purpose from damages paid by way of compensation for breach of contract or tort," he

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Architect (South East). The office deals with the

dealgn, building and maintenance of Lioyds Bank

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Higher T.E.C., and will Ideally be a full member of

computer aided design would elso be en adventage.

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per ennum, depending on age and experience. Good

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queilfications end experience should be sent to:-

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42/46 Minories.

London EC3N 1EB

Ibex House,

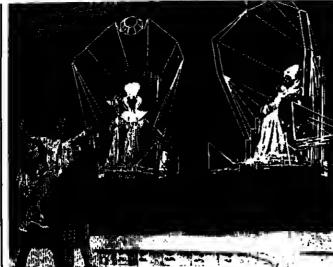
profit sharing, contributory pension end

edvantageoua steff housing ioan achemes.

B.I.A.T. Some experience of personal computers and

properties in the South East of England.

near London



## Time on their side

77 Endell Street London WC2H 9AJ

Despite a few early lechnical bitches, Dave Clark's inter-galactic musical "Time" is still pulling in audiences in the West End. Created by theatrical designers Kimpion Walker, who also put logether the sets for "Starlight Express" and "Cate", "Time" is at £4 million, the most expeosive stage-set built

Elements of the design, devised by John Napier, include a laser show, o 4.3m high suspended head sculpted in glass-fibre, the 7 toons legs of n epaceship which drop ooto the etege, a 1t.5m diameter flying seucer disc—complete with integral moving stairs and platforms—which tilts and glows, and three "thrones" (two of which are pletured) which appear to flost nod drift, operated but in the substantial motors and extend which substantial motors and extend the substantial motors.

# Safety changes urged

CHANGES to the laws on fe

The report contains prelions from a general fire sain onsultative document lastyre
It recommends a new system

of fire sniety controls to repir Buildings designated as la risk would be exempted for fire certification after inse-tion, ollowing the fire autoities to concentrate on nom and high-risk premises.

It also proposes that factor and places of worship se come under the new control

The report recommends another 69 football, rugbyr cricket grounds should! designated under the Salety Sports Grounda Act.

The weekly newspaper for the design team

# sofety heve been proposed in cunsultative document on Candidates posnis made in the Popples. Report on sports groundstate named for this year, plus modified sugar

Ray Cecil, David Rock ond Raymond Andrews are com-peting for RIBA Council's nomination as senior vicepresident - and therefore the next presidency of the institute.

Current practice vice-chairman Cecil has at last stood after having been asked to do so several times in the past. Newly cleded council member Rock believes he has a good chance of winning council support, and Andrews has decided to stand again after being beaten by Larry Rolland for council's nomination two years ago.

Sir Andrew Derbyshire, who some tipped as an ontside candidate, has soid he will not now stand as a challenger to council's nomination, which will have to be decided by July

"It would be best if the membership accepts conneil's nomination," Derbyshire said.

Whatever council decides there couldstill be a major upset, with a chollenge to council's nomination possible as late as August. Community architectitre figurehead Rod Hackney could put in plate challenge, it is believed

But he would only consider standing if David Rock were not to win council's nomination.



Cecil - standing of tast.



ndrews — trytag ogata.

INDEX

ROSTRUM 2, News 3-8 and 36,

nfill 9. Comment 9. Letters 10-11.

Perspective 12, Scorpio 13, SAGs 13

Features 1,421, Frea classified 22, Reader information scryica 22, New products 23-24, Technical literature

25. Easiregs 26. Directory of consultants and services 27. Appointments 28-35.

The state of the

#### Senior Architectural Technician

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35** 

idaai Homaa Southarn Limitad baye an immadiata vecancy for an Architectural Technician to join their Ossign Team

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> Phippen Randell and Parkes **B2** Bridge Road Hampton Court East Moleaey Surrey KT8 9HF 01-941 0606

#### Use class changes could mean more bingo instead of plays

proposed by the Government could spell a death knell for theatres throughout the country.

Yel the organisation entrusted with ensuring their survival, the Theetres Trust, was not even consulted over the proposals by the DoE.

The changes involve the Use Class Order, which is being rationalised following proposals by the Government's Property Advisory Group last year. The key alteration which

would crucially affect the Theatres Trust is the proposed merging of closses XVII and

Class XVII takes in broadly

become "permitted develophalls: class XVIII dance and sports halls, baths etc. All these would come together with other indoor and outdoor sports and planning application. eisure uses in what looks at first

sight a tidy and logical "assembly and leisure class". But the wntchdog role of the trust (chairman Lord Good-

By Tony Aldous man) rests primarily on the secretary of state's instruction to local planning authorities to refer to it planning applications surveyor by profession, and

affecting theatres, and on its and their ability to oppose change of A merging of classes XVII and XVIII would mean that

architecture.

conversion of a theatre to, say, a

ment" and no longer require a This would, says the Theatre Trust's newly appointed direct-or, John Earl, render ineffective

a large part of the role which

Parliament laid upon the trust in

the Theatres Trust Act 1976.

"I can only think that this drafting was due to inadvertence that no-one realised the effect would hove," says Earl formerly a senior Greater London Council Historic Buildings Division official, a building

The DoE began consulting other interested organisations

leading expert on theatre build-

#### legislation has helped change of use in recent years include the Whitehall (now accord LONDON theatre buildings

which could be mare at risk under a Use Class Order amended as proposed include the Combridge of Seven Dials, the Fortune off Lanc, and the Coronet al Notting Hill Gale.

Outside London, those vulnerable could include the Hulme Pinyhouse, Manchester, and the Empire, York (both up far sale and neither listed); the Grand at Llandudno; and the tiny private Puttl Theatre ni Croig-y-Noa in the Brecon Beacons, which becuine part of an NHS hospitol,

The Thenires Trusi has irled to protect working and "workable" ibenires as licoires, not as

unused does not mean that it may not one day hava a value as a working theatre.

Nor does the fact that one live theatre exists in a lown neces-sarily preclude a second viable

af a successful run of Priestley's "When we are morried"; Colchesier's accord theatre, the Hippodrome (to be kept intoct for

London (opplication for change to discotheque refused, now used for live theotre); the Gaumoni Sauthampion (designed for live stage productions and einema sarily preclude a second vioble thenire one day, eatering for a different type of stage reportoire.

Theatres saved by refueal of the saved as a live theatre); and the saved as a live theatre. Theatres saved by refusal of theque use refused).

**Mario Botta** 



One planning application that the City of London granorities should welcome to this scheme for Vintry I touse, perched above the north bank of the Thames next to Southwark Bridge.

FRIDAY JULY 11 1986

The existing building, built before the 1934 St Paul's height policy limits, is to come down, in its place, orchitects Whitney Mnekay-Lewis are prapasing a building that is contilevered in project 15m over the Theorem. the Thames, supported by one single pler in the river bed.

The 18m height reduction will give Londoners back their view of St Paut's, and give the developer. Wates City of Landon, a valuable new office

binek that can expect to reap all the benefits of the big hang.

The architects claim that the decorutive facade is haved on a New Orleans river hoat.

The City should be pleased with these efforts. Its lutest draft plan wants buildings that a becare St Paul's to come down, and promites riverside walkways, which the urchitects hove been quick to include, along with a viewing plotform and handing singe.

#### Victory for Divis residents

DEMOLITION plans for Hel-fast's notorious Divis Flats complex are "only the begin-ning" according to Town & Country Planning Association fficer Brian Anson.

"What happens next and how much tenant involvement there s in the replacement development is much more importunt. visory Group in February. But when BD approached Earl

lie said. Although the deniolition of Divis is not yet official and has even been denied by the government, sources within the Northern Ireland Housing Execu-

iemolition is the only option. A formal announcement will be made within three months.

live have suggested that total



about them on July 2, he had

only just become nware of the details — and that in a rather

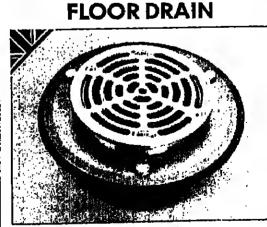
curious way. He received what appears to be a standard letter

from the DoE covering the copy

of a Parliamentory question and

Continued page 3

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remedial work is carried out. Early indications ore that aome work is likely but the government is refusing to com-ment until it has the full report from the engineers.

Building Design, London SE16. Every Fridey. Copyright 1988 Morgen Orampian pin. The contents of Building Ossign are subject to reproduction in information storage and ratrieval system. Member of the Audit Bureau at Circulations. Filmest by Phoesian 1988, 1989 and 1988 April 1988 April

honour to the outstanding Japanese architect Arata Isozaki reflects well on the institute. It is one of those imaginative choices which. once made, seem right.

Co-sponsor Richard Rogers opened the medal proceedings on what the president had called the RIBA'a "most exciting day" by placing Japanese architecture in a global context. Not only was Japan the place where several Modern Movement masters had gone to cleanse themselves of 19th century European atylistic detritus, but it was the country whose "inonumental expressionism" had reaffirmed and extended the values of Modernism.

Rogers enthused about the powerful juxtapositions of masses and textures in Isozaki's work and of the breathtaking ahocks of such interiors as that of the Palladium nightclub in New York. He quoted the dapper and youthful 55-yenrold - wearing a waistcoat for the only lime in his life according to Peter Cook — as soying that "after 20 years of building I ant now going to find a way of ereating architecture without

That quality was not lacking in Isozaki'a own remarks and indeed, in the range of vastly impressive buildings he illustrated. Could it even be detected in his statement that now, in mid-eareer, "I do not feel I have very much to show"? No. he is elearly saying "you ain't seen nothing yet", though his English is more formal if, at times, difficult to understand as a result of the incapacity of even this sophisticated Japanese to get his tongue round certain Western consonants. His modesty was also genuine at being awarded this "most prestigious" of architectural honours; he had built very little outside his own country and clearly was surprised at the world's knowledge of his work within it. The trulh is that that knowledge is recent and slight, which is why

the RIBA is to be congratulated. Isozaki also started with an historic overview. A century ago architecture did not exist as a Rising son

Rostrum

Japanese architact Arata Isozaki was presented with his Royal Gold Medal this week. David Pearce reports.



Arata Isozaki: "A sense of humour prevents the architect falling into the trap of

being anonymous sor. Since then there has been a polarisation between the Japanese mode, itself historically much influenced by that of China, and Western styles, In the 60s Kenzo Tange synthesised those sources, at least for a while. In the wake of his former mentor's achievement Isozaki auggests that he has been able to achieve a different kind of balance, an equidistant position from which he is able to draw on disparate influences even within Western architecture - he is mpresaed by both Corbusier and Lutyens, for example. What

some critics see as eclecticism he

values as a kind of creative

Tactfully, and apparently accarately, the Gold Medallist elaimed to be much influenced by British culture. He sees it as the product of an island in fruitful tension with a nearby continent, just like Japan. His English enthusiams are far from exclusive too, ranging from

lnigo Jones, Nieholas Hawksmoor, through the Beatles to Max Headroom. If architecture is the creation of "the whole soul" his is not a simple one.

Isozaki then, by means of some of his work, ahowed his audience the not inconsiderable distance he has travelled since setting up in practice in 1963. He began with a vast interior, the highly engineered "cybernetic environment" he designed in 1966 for the 1970 Expoin Osaka. After that scheme, which was still heavily influenced by Tange, Isozaki started afresh motivated much more by formal generators than by technological hype. He explored the almost Platonic potential of the square. the circle and the pyramid with a detached aesthetic arrogance only possible on that scale in

In the Gunma museum of art (1971-74) lie explored the square; in a cool classical mode he levels of underground parking. the young

ereated "large-scale cubic frames" clad in aluminium panels. Then the eircle was the generator. In the central library at Kitakyushu thealmost wormlike form was constructed in concrete tunnel vaults covered in copper. In the Kamioka town hall (1975-77) eircles and squares were combined. A eountry club at Fujima was barrel-vaulted, its plan in the form of a question mark — 'why do the Japaneae enjoy golf so much?" was his light-hearted question as the slide was on the

Also barrel-vaulted is a recently completed small mu-seum near Osaka. It was designed to display the works of an outstanding graphic artist, but that seemed less important than its aile adjacent to a railway track. So its galleries are carriage-like with little linking anterooms between them. Whether it is contextualism or mere whim, he lifts the ereation to a high level by sheer artistry. This was most gently illustrated in an experimental theatre based in a remote farmhouse complex which had been part renovated. part enhanced with new ele-

So Isozaki continued with one another; he gloried in the simplicity, almost naivety, of the original starting point in each case —it might be to expose the services in one seheme, in another to use shimmering glass to clad the workers' recreation building at a glass factory.

Such apparently quixotic selfindulgence could not, and did not -at least at first -godown in the USA. He lost a competition for an Arizona eity centre; he summed up his idea thus: "the city is in the desert, so I created a recent Gold Medallists of being desert landscape in the city". Red sandstone buildings were to be primal statements in the atrong sunlight. Under the less blinding light of Los Angeles his recent museum of contemporary art is largely of red sandstone and is 80 per cent as he wanted it despite initial opposition to its strong geometry from the commissioning client. The result is a striking, low-contour addition to a brutal skyscraper environment on Bunker Hill where the muaeum is sited above three

Isozaki tends to have his wny. One he did not win, however was the major competition for the Tokyo city hall, fosing out to his former employer, Tunge, because he refused to design the two skyscrapers suggested in the conditions (then selves imposed at least in part by Tunge himself). Isozaki believed that a large, comparatively low-rise block would allow for more appropriately complex circulation patterns and would also provide vast covered spaces

Cyelopean scule eleurly turns him on; the city hall would have been 300m long, 80m wide with a great central mall 100m high The interior perspective he showed has the exciting grnndeur of a Futurist dream, Sant Elia tansferred indoors1 Another vast interior fol-

lowed, this the ultra hi-tech and

fairly high eamp Pulladium

disco in lower east side Manhattan. Here the grandeur of the 3.500-seater late 19th century vaudeville palace is wilfully sent up by Isozaki's insertions. At the other end of at least one speetrum is the town centre at Tskuba where walkways lead to a piazza, the iconography of which derives from Michaelangelo's Campidoglio in Rome. stunning buildings following Strange and brilliant to find in the same complex a concert hall and hotel partly of crystolline glass, partly of masonry features owing something to the mannerism of Giulio Romano. "A sense

"one of the lads" with a great

deal of creative life still to go.

Cook revels in the humour in the

work of this "thinking archi-

tect". Gunma is "mostly in

architect would think of doing

repose, yet naughty at the

mous,'

Melyllle-Ross announced Nationwide is to make ist of humour," says lsozaki, niajor Index-linked invest prevents the architect falling Issue, attracting £30 million into the trap of being anony-Investment in rented and the ownership housing. As Peter Cook, the last In a supplementary repor speaker and an admiring friend the Inquiry, Professor Di made plain, anonymity is not a Donnison of Glasgow Union

Britain's

nousing

deepens

he attention it deserved.

Federation of Housing Assa

dwellings, deteriorating head stock and a lack of come:

ehoice were all issues that ha

be put on the national agent

Speakers at the confest Including Tlm Melville &

chief executive of Nation,

Bullding Soelety, and De

Waddington, elty housing it.

for Birmingham, said the was due to lack of private

public investment in housing

**Crisis** 

danger for Isozaki. He also sald housing must now अंद new demands. "New designs and new life conversions are needed to a with the changes in size and i ncobility of households," he

> FT to move THE Financial Times us.

Some of his work is "quite join the printing influ Docklands leaving behad present 1959 headquatters simply vulgar" (a girls' school in his home town of Oita and "heavy totem poles"). Others of Caunon Street designed bi? his buildings juxtaposed forms Albert Richardson. in a way that "no well-tnught

FT manngement this s: innounced plans to relocate No wonder laozaki is admired by £55 million plant by July 19

> preserving and enhancing (eliles). Ask yourselfe, bilitics ile you have town over-ngod, three-diment evidences of ounn's poyer #

Cities, particularly the amellorale the letter with descending Band-Aldacism

"enclosure business could enable.

constructions;

■ Religious dislike of The value of scrap,

· Last and most pol domestle hostilliles of mans themselves. The lerror of the Va

Tower If they ware to fell wrong hands.
Cilies: the alarms

Police and

community was a root cause of last year's Tottenham riots, according to Lord Gifford's BRITAIN'S housing clisis inquiry which was published this week.

worsened since the publication the Duke of Edinburgh's lead into British Housing a year ways. But Gifford was eritical of Haringey council for allowing says Richard Best, secretary degenerate into a state of dis-Speaking al a London onde repair and called for more ence on the slate of housingin the report, Best said it was the ed into Haringey. sustain the debate to ensurelis

#### Best, director of the Nata Giant scheme tlons, said shortage of me

BOLSOVER District Council has come out in support of controversial plans to huild Britain's biggest hypermarket bouring county and district

The plans to build the 25,000sq m complex at South Normanton have been opposed by Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire county councils. They say the hypermarket plans would hit shops for miles around.

#### Degree show

THIS yeur's degree show at the Polytechnic of Central London opens at 6.30 tonight at 35 Marylchone Road.

It will run Mondays to Saturdays until July 26, from 10am to

on the PAG's proposals. Lord Jenkins said: "I believe the DoE made an error in not consulting anybody in the theatrical world about the

at a time when it is poised to expand its activities.

the nim of the proposals is t "reduce the need for planning applications but retain effective control over changes of its where that is needed because of their environmental conse other uses."

Inder threat: the Fortune and the Cambridge.

Professional Officers' elections have just been announced.

New appointments to the architecture and building services section of the union include A A Crampin of the East Anglian Regional Health Authority, W H John of Ogwr Borough Council, E Kelly of Blackburn Borough Council, R Kirby of the London Borough of Bexley, J F Tucker of Norfolk County Council, K R.

Prince heads list of under fire
A FUNDAMENTAL hreakdown in the relationship between the police and the local
ween the police and the local
we have the police and the local
ween the police and the local
w cities conference

By John Wood

1985, said Fluckney, but there

were now so many supporting organisations it was unfair that

"one group should hog the

The speakers at the confer-

On the first day speakers will

include Des Wilson, chairman

of Friends of the Earth and past

ence will represent a wirle variety

AN international community archildelure conference, The idea for the conference hacked by more than 30 procame from the RIBA community architecture group in July fessional and voluntary organisations and with the kevnote address by Prince Charics, was announced this week.

"Building Communities" will be chaired by Lord Scarman on November 27-28, the lifth anniversary of his report on the Brixon riots which called for community participation in innercity renewal.

One of the organisers, The Times architecture correspondent Charles Knevitt, said fees would be kept low and a novel London venue would be used to nouse the 1,000 phis delegates

The conference would receive help from backers such as the RIBA, RICS and RTPI, which would allow their premises to be used as satellite vennes. But they would also be booking for commercial sponsors, headded.

Conference president Rod Hackney said it would pull together the strands of the many reports on the inner cities.

He also revealed that a major

eausing the contractor, Openminster, a loss, factors into account, the under-certification was

out work within the UK public

sector during April 30, 1981, and April 30, 1986.

Entry forms are available from SIAD, Nash House, Car-

Iton House Terrace, London

DR Jan Bobrowski is the

president of the Concrete Society, succeeding lan Thomton of architects Thornton Harmell.

Colin Mansfield of Trollope

& Colls is senior vice-president

and Dr Peter Hewlett of Cemen-

tation Research, Kennedy Hen-

deraon's Bernard North end

Jake Cameron of Arhitects

Design Group are vice-presi-

TOO many homes designed for

the elderly have basic design

errors, according to a report by

Surrey-based architects Broad

way & Malyan.
Released to coincide with the

firm's: 50th housing scheme for

the elderly, the report empha-

aises the importance of features

such as communal areas, the size and style of sink taps window fastenings, lighting, the inclusion of slopes rather than steps.

high levels of insulation and

contrasting colour sahemes for

changes of direction, level or

**Housing for** 

the elderly

SWIY 5AH.

President

Bobrowski

But Judge John Davies, sitting on Official Referee's business, said that after taking other

negligence into consideration.

# Commons plans inquiry into PSA

Described by the PSA as "the first one of its kind", the inquiry - headed by Tory MP Sir Hugh Rossi - will be covering all aspects of the PSA, including tendering, internal management and new works.

The committee is expected to pahlish a White Puper with recommendations on how the PSA could he run more effici-

The agency has come under continual fire from critics, who say it is not cost-effective and is budly in need of a minjur slinke-up (News May 30).

Since 1980 there have been 10 "efficiency scrutinies" within the PSA, including inquiries butn band disposul, apprentice training and the Property Repayment Service.

The Wardale Inquiry livestigated fraud and corruption within the agency, and a National Audit inquiry came up with 150 recom-

A MAJOR Inquiry into the Government's Property Services Agency is to be earrical out by the House of Commons environment mental of the PSA claims to have implemented.

committee in the next Parlin- The Fraud Squad was this week setting in motion legal moves to press charges aguinst 19 employees and cuntractors to the PSA involving corruption totalling "millions of pounds", sald Investigating officer Detective SuperIntendent John MacNn-

> He said the Director of Public Prosecutions was preparing Informotion gathered during a two-year inquiry to lay befure ningistrates at Hurseferry Hoad to obtain summonses.

A full trinl is expected to follor at the Old Builey.

MacNummra subl ullegation mnde in the News of the World in 1984, lavolved entruption in maintenance and building contracts at Hampton Court, the Emperor State Hullding, Earls Court, and the Chelsea Hospital. Mast of the charges related to the Loudon urea, and concerned more contractors than employees of the PSA.

#### Architect wins negligence decision

winning Derry Inner City Pro-ject; and Richard Hatch, from

the American Institute of Archi-

Hackney and the Bishnp of Liverpool, David Sheppard,

will speak on the second day.

followed by a forum on the UN

International Year of Shelter for

the Homeless, for which Lord

The afternoon session will be

given over to the politicians.

Former environment secretary Michael Heseltine, SDP presi-

ilent Shirley Williams, shudow

environment secretary John

for the Green movement will all

Conningham and Paul Elkius

Scarman is UK president.

AN architect who conducted his uwn case has been completely exonerated from all liability to a contractor who alleged he had been guilty of

director of Shelter; Patrick address the conference.

The architect, Mark Drummond, was said to have under-certified a job by 23 per cent, thus

This margin would not bring any question of

He believed the £23,000 contract would have been better done on a cost-plus hasis. He did accept evidence that Drummond had said to the contractor: "Do the best you can. I'm fed up with

The judge praised the candour of the witnesses

#### Hille founder dies at 87

RAY Hille, the furioure designer and founder of Hille Inter minional, died this week aged 87

For more than half a century die headed the family furniture business which has a reputation

# Theatres hit out at new planning threat

It showed a minister saying: "Wearegratefulto all those who commented on the proposals for the revision of the order". As he bemusedly read on, Earl found

his predecessor as director and now consultant to the trust, who says: "It would be disastrous. The trust must resist it. I believe our view is widely shared."

The Theatres Trust was

The eventual fragilities

Coast with the same ease. An Egyptlan floating cement plant is being anchored at the mouth of the Thames opposile

to his amuzement the devastating effect those proposed changes would have on theatres. He agrees with Lord Jenkins,

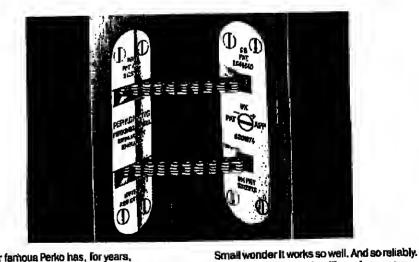
created 10 years ago as the result of a Bill promoted by the Tory MP for Canterbury, David Crouch, now its deputy chairman. Other members include actress Diana Rigg, architect James Dunbar-Naismith, thentre-owner Ian Albery and Equity leader Peter Plouviez. Earl and Jenkins are emphatic



RESULTS of the recent Federated Union of Managerial &

Tythacott of Surrey and PJ Cannon.

#### **Public sector** One breakthrough design award that owes nothing to foreign ENTRIES for this year's Designers Award should be subtechnology and everything to British ingenuity. nified by September 15. The award, which is sponsored by the Society of Indusirial Artists & Designers and Designers' Saturday, is open to all designers who have carried



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neatly in the door frame. But it incorporates a unique hydraulic cylinder which pulls tha door, al a controlled rate, to within a few inches of closing. then ages II quiatly over the laich.

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"CITY WISE" would appear lo celebrate the wisdom of maintaining the city. To reassure the architects altending is a member of the Government, a controversial Bishop, a radical politician and a successful insurance man turned community ad-Not many years ago it would have been the other way round,

with the architects doing the reassuring. The group of worthles support, for the Ilme being, the overall status quo of the elty — give or take a few plous yet fleeting doubts — Indeed their very callings require such support, yel all must have read Glbbon's Decline and Foll.

It seems that These sad, frightened people are prepared to pay and be paid to shove their heads a little further into the sond.

(J

There is no doubt that for various periods of history the city has been a self-structuring, albeit defective, mechanism to achieve such modest nims as safely; security; docile clilzening; uccu-mutation of wealth; provision of cheap food; storage of Ireosurea; communal health; controlled movement; exchange of Ideas and ari cfacts.

Few cootemporary cities achieve auch aima. Cities, like institutions, have feasible lifespons and fixed operational time cycles. To distort such spans invariably distorts the social and nloyed. Yel such tools may well be W C Fialds had a jaundiced viaw about at least one city. Cedric Prica is dubious about them all in this messaga to the RIBA conference.

City Wise

# 'I went to Philadelphia once. It was closed.'

the only worthwhile long-lasting provided with a few coats of paint constituents of such cities. Nine and a caring policeman, atay caused its citizens but by a close. Therefore the National Out of the world's ten igreest elties. view their predicted growth with alarm --- while the tenth, London, deplorea ita own shrinkage. Perhaps all ten merely regret that old-fashloned control doesn't the role of the architect -heis]]]-

The UK Government la now considering largo investment of monies into inner areas of several mnjor elties at the east of removing local nuthority coal rol. (The Romans were quite adept at this as they moved their empire ensiwards.) City centre decay used to be the problem, now II la inner elty dereliction - what next, suburban lattiness? It is deplorable that the architectural profession encourages this naive riew of the city as a finite, physically recognisable entity— it is understandable that adminis-

irators delight in such a neat comprehensible package. It is a trange that while half the present Cabinel exhorts people to "get their blka", the other half applauds Those 11 ho, having been and a caring pollecman, atay guilible as a lazy profession that lves eredence to the sillinesses of lice Coleman and others. To amellorate the effects of dud products in the wrong placea is not

sulted for auch a lask and is likely to take his own efforts loo ln so doing, orelitects run the risk of assuming that most eltizens love to live in elties just because that la where most now ilva. Allernallyca are seldom offered, but when they have been, as in the ease of between-the-wars suburban sprawl or posi-war new lowna, I hese have been consumed

wills delight. The constructive destruction of the city is already well underway. It is a pity that arehitects don't contribute. This lack of involvement may well badua to a middleclasa squeamishness endemie in Our profession.

• The Clano Alr. Acts which -

ended amog la London were not

winter death toll among its bovine viali ora at the Smithfield • The major new risk to city sewers is the rising natural water tubles in previously industrialiaed

Prospective developers are finding the visual environmental sssumed modes of behavlour increasingly unailractive. The accond-rate Manalon House appeara lo be impossible to build alongside, while If you grow high, big and ugly on the Isle of Dogs you're in Irouble with the Green-

which arbiters of laste;
Oxford Street is likely to make wlodow shopping mechanleally tricky in response to the massive growth of out-of-town retall outlets;

 Only 5 per cent of the £7 million available for compensailon after the Handsworth rlota has been pald out after nine A sanlor exacultye in tha

theatre la his home town of ● Vandalism of public city

telephones is increasing rapidly; • The London ouler-orbital road la becoming more popular on its ouiside than on its inside; The rats in London, who outnumber cilizens four-fold, are bacoming increasingly adven-

 The Blrmlngham National Exhibition Centre is dropping most references to Birmingham; Luton Alrport will be linked direct to Gatwick by British Rall with no London alation change, while the rall users of the Midlands can visit the South

Britain's largest eemen! factory.
These jolly facts contrast strangely with the "City Wise". conference paniphlet fletion that "Architecia... carry a major South Bank Shell Centre has rasponsibility in the task of over its shoulder

greed and aloth? pnris that most people is reach, are, through their puted lired hopelessness of concern and indeed guille

> OK for visiting VIPs but sal to anticipale the range of pro-- not probable - dell olternatives to the present the addition of a little bit

Never forget the fo the destruction of Rome

The weapons of war on the St Peters always renings how dangerous could be st Cal hedral or Indeed the

sounded and a case for tion could be enhanced and given substance by ture if it looks fow a driver

that the trust was not consulted

proposed change."
Ironically, the threat to the rolc of the Theatres Trust comes

The ground rents of the Garrick and Lyric theatres. transferred to it with minister approval by the GLC, give it useful annual income.
The Parliamentary answer of

the Use Classes Orderstates that quences or relationship with



# Union election results

Taylor

Chapman

sail home

CHAPMAN Taylor, with devel-

oper Countryside Properties,

has won the competition to build a massive £31 million

shopping complex in Barking town centre.

Barking and Dngenham council were originally deluged with

28 entries from developers when

the competition plans were

Countryside has offered to pay Barking & Dagenhum £4.5 million for the development

#### Housing inquiries under way

PUBLIC inquiries into the housing and planning strategies of Northamptonshire and Berkshire started this week with conservationists arguing with housebuilders and developers about housing needs and de-mands up to the next century.

Housebuilders claim the counties need more housing to meet their own needs and to provide for people in search of work.

Conservationists have been backed by the Conneil for the Protection of Rural England which snys Berkshire's plan to limit housebuilding is a "bold attempt to meet the real needs of Berkshire and its residents".

#### Pub awards

Real Ale, has lounched its Pub Awards scheme for 1986. Details from CAMRA Pub Awards, 34 Alma Rond, St Albans, Heris ALI 3BW. (0727)

CAMRA, the Campaign for

**Conservationists blamed** for St John's pull-out

to blame for American patron Frederick Koch's decision not to procecd with pians lo convert St John's Lodge, Regents Park, into an art gallery and education centre, sa ys Koch's architect Michael

la a press statement following Koch's withdrawal from the project, Monser said the scheme would not go ahead "because of unrealistic, undiscriminating, unscholarly and impractical attitudes by a small number of people involved in the emo-

innal edge of conservation' Negotintions over St John's Lodge began three years ago. In May this year Westminster council agreed in principle to proposals by Koch's architects, Chnrics Young and Manser, for the building, but listed building

English Heritage on the advice of its London Advisory Com-

The committee backed a motion saying there were "still strong architectural and art

By Amanda Ballileu

historical objections", despite Manser's revisions to the original design.

But conservationists -- who feel they have scored a notable victory in heading off the scheme — say they now "regret" Koch's decision not to proceed with any plan for St Joha's

Suvc, which kept up an exhaustive campaign against Manser's proposals, described Koch's decision to pull out as a

Other groups, including the Georgian Group and the Victorian Society, appear to agree that the scheme for turning the building into a private art gallery was only acceptable if Koch dropped his plans to recast

the principal rooms with stone

But Manser said the changes oposed were not "draconian" and would have turned the building into a "first-class museum, incorporating virtually all the building's present character and decorative detail despite the introduction of necessities such as air-conditioning and lifts". A statement issued on behalf

of Koch said "he is no longer prepared to continue with the time-consuming effort" of finding a London home for his £30 million art collection



Michael Manser: attached "unrealls-

#### Clean up for Soho laundry

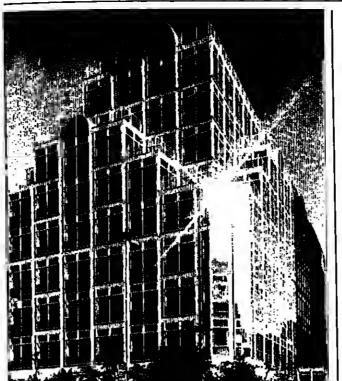
BURRELL Foley ASSOCIATE have been appointed to come the Marshall Street Publ Laundry building in Sohoing relicarsal and administris base for the Shared Expense The Grade Illaundry, unus

since 1979, will be conven into two rehearsal studie administration accommod tion, design and storage fai ities and a small workshop.

Total cost of the project £80,000. The theatre compandue to launch an appeal tone about half of that amount.

#### **EEC** chair

ENVIRONMENT minis William Waldegrave bash eome chairman of the Europa Council of Environment Y islers for the next six med Environmentalists will presf action on acid rain during!



The first of three office developments designed by Holford Associates has just been opened in Manchester. Lincoln House has 3,500sq m of floor space on 10 storeys and parking for 20 chicles. It was completed to 18 months at a cost of £2.1 million.

# RIBA unveils plans for Portland Place gallery competition

details of the competition for a new exhibition gailery in the institute's Portland Place

A two-stage procedure, open to RIBA members and graduate students who have passed Part I, will be used.

At stage one entrunts will be sked to submit material, from which the assessors may select a shortlist to be invited for inter-

After the interview, a final list of six will be chosen to go through in the second stage. They will be given the com-

They will then make a presentation of how the design should be approached.

The winner will be commissinaed to develop the design

#### **By BD Reporter**

"under the acgis of the assess-

Ex-president Michael Manser chairman of the assessors, who comprise Sir Philip Dowson, Richard Rogers, Colin Stansfield Smith, Marjorie Appleton, Lord Perth and Sir Peter Parker (the last two are chairman and member respectLibrary Trust).

The council reduced this Commenting on the competifigure to eight and then to a tion, institute president Lurry Rolland said: "There is a need to ing Countryside at this stage were Neal House with the Codevelop 66 Portland Place into a public centre for the promotion operative Insurance Society. and London & Edinburgh of architecture and the allied

"Bringing the Drawings Col-lection into the main building to he given more space and better facilities is an essential part of

"This competition gives RIIIA members the opportunity to play a leading role in the transformation.

The creation of the gallery is seen as part of the plan to re house the Drawings Collection within the institute, moving from its present home in Portman Square to premises in 68 Portland Place.

But opponents of the move donot object to the creation of a gallery. They see it as a separate ssue and something which would be a good thing for the iostitute in its own right.

Material for consideration should be sent by September 30 to the institute, aurked "RIIIA competition'

#### rights to the site and the conneil will also receive an normal 5 per **Builders** in

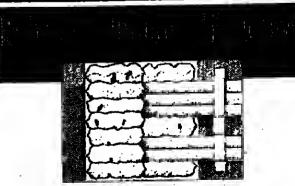
better light COMPLAINTS about shoddy work by builders have dropped for the first time in several years according to the annual report of the Director General of Fair

There has been a slight fall from 44,323 complaints in 985 to 31,319 this year. These figures coincide with the introduction of a guarantee scheme run by the Building Umployers

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# RIBA library gains a drawings windfall

The British Architectural Library at The British Architectural Library at the RIBA has just received a mujor domition of original drawings by John Nash and some of his noted contemporaries. The drawings come from a scropbook of architectural illustrations compiled by Henry Duesbury in his Lee Duesbury Album and were presented to the Nicholas Persner Memorial Library (part of BALT) by architectural historian and Nash biographer Sir John Summerson.

blographer Sir John Summerson. The drawings date from the 17th and 18th centuries and include Nash'a plans for a market, probably at Abergavenny (1793), pretiminary (1797), as well as pictureaque cottages, gatewnys and architectural

**@** 

partner Charles Lee, who had been a clerk in the office of John Nash. Summerson's giff to the Pevsner library was sponsored by Birbech

College.
Snumers on said this was a way of allowing more people to see valuable works. "If the idea is made more widely known it is possible that some other. Harrost learned the completed of the interest is some or the control of t

other interesting material may energe from obscurity," he said. For further information about donations of materials to the Nicholar Pevaner library, contact Lynne Walker, 01-520 5533 (ext. 4306).

 The British Architectural Library will be closed to personal users from August I to August 31, Loan books can be renewed by phone (01-5805533 Sketches by C Publin, Shaw and Repton are represented in the album,

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It could be the first step in stopping a fire from spreading to more than a piece of paper.

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TELEPHONE kiosks designed by Sir Gilbert Scott in the 1920a and 30s will be listed this summer, the DoE has con-

Listing follows pressure from conservation groups and local councils, who argued that the rarer pre-1939 kioaks should be preserved, despite British Telecom's 10-year modernisation

BT estimates that only oround' 200 of the K2 models designed in 1924 survive. There are around 3,000 of the more popular K6, known as the Jubilee.
BT said that "although listing

is appropriate in some circumstances, in other instances it'a

better to replace the kiosks". BT hes begun to replace kioaks with lower mounted equipment designed for the handicapped and wheelehalr

The new kioaks will also be cheaper to maintain, brightly lit, and less prone to van dalism.

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E.

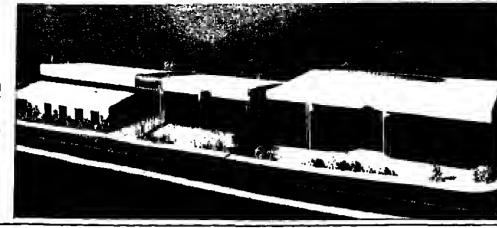
#### Newspaper additions

Anroo Evans Associates has designed ao satension to the Bath nawspaper distributors it completed in 1981

(right).
The new holiding will be linked to the esleting one by a transpersot escopy over the service yard. It comprises a two-storcy 550sq m office/worehouse.

office/worehouse.

The £750,000 development also includes n 1,100sq m office/warehouse (right). Work le due to start lo Saptembar 1986.



# Shopping centre boom takes off in Portsmouth

clly to experience e rash of lerge shopping developments. The most recent proposal ia

on the site of the former Royal

Portamouth Hospital.

Designed by John Living & Morrison Rose, the £6 million scheme is due to go before the planning committee at the end for a 5,000sq m Sainsbury store

Most of the aile has lain derelict for 15 years but there bas been given the go-ahead.

tion of the liated Old Bell's School building, with only the facade being preserved.

Across the city in Fratton another 5.000sq m superstore

The shape of things we've done. park providing more than 400

Work is due to start on itenrly ext year, with completion due n summer 1988.

#### By John Wood

at last selieduled to begin next spring on the £40 million Cascades shopping centre.

It will stond next to the awardwinning but ultimately dis- palace. astrous Tricorn shopping centre designed by Owen Luder and built in 1965. After eight years and two

intended to be niry and inviting, everything the harsh concrete Tricorn is not. The covered centre will have a main squore with mulls lending

24,500sq m of retuil space.
The centre will also include u 600-space multi-storey car purk and is due for completion in late

planning permission for the scheme two years ago but has only recently reached agreement with Hampshire County Coun-

cil over road access. The £8,5 million development lesigned by MWT will also include a shopping mall with 15 shop units, a "fuluristic food eourt", petrol station and a ear

In the city centre work is

Environment secretor No olas Ridley said in the Commo that immediate sleps base he taken to reetify weshes identified in the report. Heads public inquiries the Tripe & that he would also be ghit Wakeham Partnership project is scrious consideration to 5. John's proposals for nilis

turing staff management.

A new bnokici published weck, Our Heritage, death off and provide n tntul of Nicholns Ridley sold that bookict "domonstratediles of the Agency's committee conservation and some of

nehlevenients",

# Court fire THE management at Haugh Court has been already critical in a special report, commission by the DoE, into the cause of fire at the palace last Mark

Critical

The report, by Sir lok Garlick, said that "the dok excreise of reaponsibility i tween the Property Sense Agency and the Doe "to Irlbuted significantly to a unsatisfactory state of after that had developed by the inthe fire".

The PSA "showed little cern" to ensure that the fills fire detection system was not properly, said Sir John. He spoke of lack of the

training when the alarma installed in 1982 by Chubis Security. But the report also points

design faults in the systeme TWO sixth-formers from Corby have won the £500 first prize in a meant the alarm falled logs until six hours after the finh started.

DoE all the responsibility for

factory design competition.

Now component producer
Inter-roll is to incorporate some
of the proposals into its £2
million extension programme, It was an Intruder sim activated three hours aftet blaze broke out, that led to eventual discovery,

Tcams from the five senior Sir John suggests that the schools in Corby were asked to design e 4,000sq m office and production extension for luterto take responsibility for if roll. The winning duo, Graeme Bates and Paul Cranston from Lodge Park school, have not system that was repeatedly git out false glarms, while extent building work was going on ist lct success go to their heads. Both hope to go to university — but not to study architecture. A more "unified approach" called for, which would gire!

buildings and planned develop-

ments such as the Kirkgate

shopping acheme which threat-en many of them.

ties of neglect, pointing out that Leeds has no lown acheme, a

partnership between local and

central government which

allows many historic towns to

get arnut nid to repair old

Winning

designers

It also accuses local authori-

#### Fire resistance

CONSUMER minister Michael Howard has announced new measures to improve the fire resistance of domestic upholstered furniture.

The revised regulations will be based on a code of practice drawn up by members from the furniture trade.

It will aim to ban some of the worst combinations of upholstery components.

# report on jeopardy by New council Hampton development LEEDS' architectural heritage is being squandered in the supervise of often insupervises. Set to fight pursuit of often inappropriate

ping complex on the site of e former steel works in the Dudley Enterprise Zone could

Associates, is planning to house the development inside a huge 1930s building, previously used Dudley Enterprise Zone could heve e "rough ride", warns Dudley's newly elected Labour council

The 40ha sile, owned by Midland developer Richardson Brothers, has been earmarked for a three-phased shopping that the developers carry out a development after plans to detailed survey of its possible market the land for industrial use failed to attract investors.

Last week saw the opening of the first phase, which includes a covered mall of pround 30shops and the giant hypermarkel Carrefour, designed by the Building Design Practice from Wolverhampton,

Outline permission for another 180,000sq m of shopping was given by Dudley council after the DoE turned

#### By Amanda Balllleu

down recommendations to have he scheme called in.

But the council is concerned that the development will hit local retailers.

The architects, Leslie Jones, will be presenting the scheme to Dudicy council next week.
A spokesman from Leslie

Jones said he was "anticipating a semi hi-tech unit possibly in mirrored glass". The two-storey mall will be linked to the first phase by a covered mall, which began on site last week.

Meanwhile o firm of Ausralian developers has announced proposals for a 90,000sq m shopping "lown" 10 minutes from Birmingham town

# pursuit of often inappropriate developmenta according to a report from Save. Released to coincide with the Leeds Festival of Music and Architecture, Leeds — a Lost Opportunity? highlights the large number of fine Victorian buildings and planned develop. PLANS for a massive show.

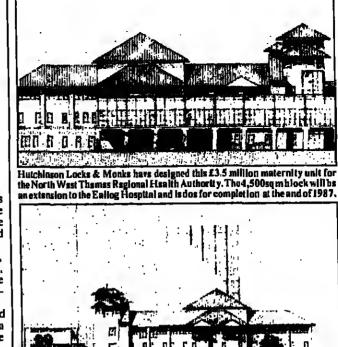
The company, George Harris by Dunlop for storage.

The six-storey building, known locally as Fort Dunlop,

would be developed olongside GHA's plans for retail warehousing on the site. The council has demanded

impact on local shopping.

Birmingham council soid at a recent plunning committee that the shopping centres planned for Sandwell and Dudley would threaten the city centre.



#### Designed to cope with disability

A GUIDE for the designers of public buildings and spaces has been published by the Access Committee for Britain.

Designing for people with sensory impairments encourages architects to cater for a group not apecifically legislated for in the 1985 Building Regulations.

It contains drawings, test and reference material and is intended as a companion for the guide to designing for disabled people published last year.

The guide is available for £2 from Access Committee for England, 35 Great Smith Street, London SWIP 3BJ.

#### Thatch show

AN EXHIBITION of thatch, timber and ningtar is being singed by the Would and Downland Open Air Museum from August 22-25. Detnils from Richard Poilthorpe (024363) 348/363.

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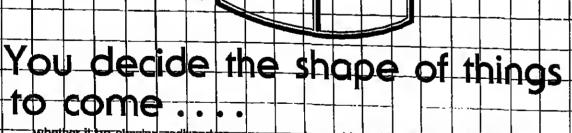
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la a mambar of the HAT. Group.

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Tottenham Court Road tube artist, Eduardo Paciozzi,
Al a cost of £2.4 million, the owners, Loodon & Bristof, will distinctly building that will not look out of place among its mental neighbours. AMTICOFLOORS.

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# Walls of water

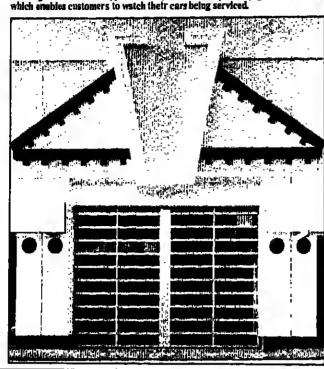
A bold new skyline for Shuftesbury Avenue cames in the form of this affice

development designed by the GMW Partnership.
With an eye an the style and "grain" of existing buildings in the area, GMW chose red brickwark and Portland stone for the fuçade, and n lead-elad roaf.
A major feature is tha abiquitous utrium, which wilt reach from the first floor to the top of the building, with a "wall of water" e ascading dawn from the first floor to the grount-floor leval.

The develapment wilt include 4,365sq m of affleca, and 650sq m af relall. Completion is scheduled for autumn 1987.

# Triumphal entry

The "triemphal folly" and entraoce pictured belong to a new BMW car shawroom in Bristol. Designed by Bruges Tozer Partnership, the £450,000 building bouses car sales, parts stores, offices and a partially-glazed warkshop





#### Open gate policy

opened the Saxon North Gote at Oxford after its £100,000 restora-

included a new staircase and as facilities, were Peter Bosamon John Perryman Associates.



new multi-purpose arts centre in the town.

The sebeme mat the council's design brief for a flexible and highly serial arts centre to provide space for traditional theatre and music as well stage, banqueting focilities and exhibition areas. The exterior of the building two liered pitched roofs to the math block and pliched roofs to the adject, and the stage.



The nine-storey building, arranged around a central atrium, has an insitu concrete frame with fair-faced concrete coffered cellings in the office area and exposed circular columns.

Cotta in colour.
Two wall climber lift internal and one external the office floors walls

Infill Park Unravelling the

Lifting the red tape burden on business was the

Government's message to the Urben Design Group's conference, "White Coller Factories".

Lawrence Revill reports.

FORMER RIBA president Bryan Jefferson deputised for

environment minister Sir George Young (absent on Parliamentary business) at the Urban Design Group

conference on new buildings for new types of employment.

A new business use class to combine industry and comings and the needs of tenants as

His main worry was the delays

which the planning system could

couse. At a time when the

interest charges on lond pur-

chases were so large (but surely

not so great as in the past) the

cost of a month's delay would come off the external finish of

the scheme, not the inside. In the

end it was the quality of spaces

around buildings that suffered.

Nick Falk sawa role for urbas

promoting run-down areas by changing their image in the eyes of residents and businessmen

And public finance was the

primary source of funds for such

He saw today's key workers

workers with very different

pump-printing exercises.

live, not just work.

what hoppened above.

places for living too.

chairman, expressed the City's

new-found desire to attract new

development, enshrined in the

He placed great emphasis on

plot ratio, now much relaxed, and to pedth tomally suited a would result from the redeve-

lopment of outworn, antiseptic

schemes of the 1950s and 60s.

Discussion centred on how

major inner-city developments

could be made more responsive

to employee as well as employer

needs, and how we could secure

wired uses which benefit at

three of Simon Hughes' com-munities of interest. If business

was to be brought back into our

cities when investment was

finite, they would have to be

made more attractive places,

and tighter (government) con-trols: would be needed or

greenfield development.

re-drnfted City Local Plan.

designers os environmental

public relations people

merce, flexible planning permis-

sions to allow changes between

agreed uses without further

applications, and moking sub-

division of large units permitted

development were the policies

he outlined, while on the pro-

mntional side a whole series of

finoncial packages was avoitable

to the community programme.

must react to people's needs and the changes which inevitably

affect our society. Gone are the

days of the grand plan and the arbitrary regulation," declared

But if the minister was con-

cerned mainly with the process,

MP Simon Hughes, the Alliance

environment spokesman, was very which concerned with the

roduct and its effect on people's lives. Addressing the sub-title of "Urban life, urban design

and the technological revolu-tion", he was keen for urban

designers to use their skills to

help reconcile the competing but often overlapping needs of the three "communities of interest"

in urban areas - workers,

residents and visitors. It was in

bringing these communities

together that the vitality of city

should not involve more high buildings, elaimed Jules Lub-

bock, architectural critic of the

New Statesman. They were

environmentally suspect, symbolically misleading and wasteful of valuable land.

Lubbock felt that arbitrary

plot-ratio controls were to

blame and urged a return to

simpler controls of facade height and building line. "These often produce buildings of much

greater plot-ratios than towers,'

e said. "Only then will the

belance between the symbols of capital and the symbols of Church and State beredressed."

tor Ken Powell emphasised the more positive side of its activi-

ties, seeking out buildings which

would help regenerate whole

areas of the social as well as

physical fabric. Business had to

The anti-urban approach wes described by Hugh Cannings.

chief planner and architect for

Warrington New Town, and

Winchester city planner Jack

Thompson, Both talked about

The green-field development of

In Warrington's ease this

resulted from hard promotional

work and a business develop-nient plan. In Winchester, "Bd-

resulted from the deflection of

heavy demand from the city to

protect its historic character.

But these pavilions in landscape

settings are not the solution to

providing for work in urban

business and science parks.

play its part.

Save Britain's Heritage direc-

But building for business

life loy, he said.

from urban development grants

"Architects and plonners . . .

# red-tape tangle Looking for city lights

SCORSESE's brilllant new film "After Hours" explores once again the notion of the city as a menecing backcloth, a theme of the same director's "Menn Streets". and contrasting strongly with the romentle image given to the same city, Menhallan, by Woody Allen in the film of that name. The endless faselnation of the city for film-makers (one also thinks of Fellini's Roma and the fictional elly in "Blade Runner") is surely precisely because the city is what you make of it — it encompasses every aspect of the human condition. This is wity squeaky clean citles (and new lowns suffer from this tendency) seem so allen. They have no "bad" areus, no immigrant quarters, somehow no guts; that part of elty life which ensures survival, the endless renewal of cheap old property by poorer groups into something better.

In the medieval world, the phrase 'town nir unkes free" referred to the liberation achieved by those who fied the countryside to find a different form of

life, certainly subject to all sorts of limits and economic pressures, but one which was not iled to the stultifying sociel mechanisms of the feudal system. In the underdeveloped world the snate is true today; the rural poor are allracted to cities as moths to o light. This is surely perily the result of the image of the city as romanile environment, not so much streets paved with gold, but filled with excliement, diversity, activity of every kind, and subject to a more democratic organisation (at least in theory) than the enduring landlocked societies of the country. In this respect, the institution of local government inkes on a portleular significance, which is why the recent abolition of puris of that system has nroused such hostility.

The penalty or price for the freedom of the city (a "freedom" given to worthy clitzens is a sort of concentrated version of the freedom enjoyed by nil lis denizens) is of course the social ills which some would argue are a very much worse

Editor's Comment

version of the lils of the countryside. The popular notions of these, drug addiction, mugging, vandalism and so on are peritops, at lensi in London, a price which fewer and fewer people are prepared to pay. But this proposition should be lested ngainst the fact that development in the inner elly is still much more difficult than it should be, that a new feudal system has emerged in many of our urban areas (subsidised morigagepossessors equal the landed class, council tenants the serfs), and that the historical reasons for the growth of elties nre now on the wane. Do we want citles "revived" or irimmed? linckney or Millon Keynes? The RIBA's limely conference mny suggest some polniers, though they may not have much to do with architecture.



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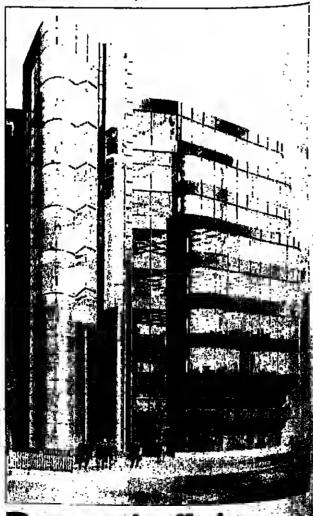
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### Arts package

Architects Norman & Dawbarn have leamed up with contractor Lienelly it offer Crawley Borough Council a £5.8 million design and build packer for

Navinous.
External finishes are of iruditional brick with filed roofs, creating the initial profile set into a wooded site with landscaped car parks, walk-quit public approaches to the main partico.

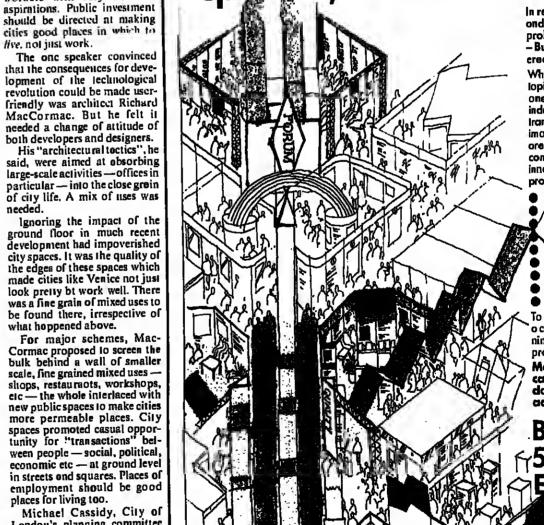


#### Dramatic flair

A dramatic naw office building designed by the GMW Partnership is on schedule for completion by early

Mike Bignell, a director of MEC settain transfer property company, felt that tenants increasingly wanted It will be clad in flat a igh-quality external as well as Internal environments, Developers recognised the need for social and environmental gains as part of their schemes, but directly related to their build-

#### At last an exhibition designed for the specifier, not the salesman. In recent years new exhibition ideas have been lew ond far between. So we osked 4,000 leading industry



prolessionals to design their own trade lair; the result

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London Docklonds

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Enter 1 ON EXPLASS

bridge, my students have esti-

mated that the total floor area

occupied by external walls in

Oxford's collegiate buildings is

in excess of 27,000 sq m. Were we

to rebuild these cold, dark and outmoded edifices (surely inap-propriate to modern life and its

expected comforts) using syst-

ema building of the type illus-

trated and hoving an externa

wall thickness of only 55mm, wo

would make available at least 1,300 study bedrooms to Oxford

students, thereby solving the

university's accommodation

Of further benefit would be

the stone and rubble so created

by the replacement. For this

could be used to solve the city's

chronie parking shortoge (have

you over tried to find a parking

place in Oxford?). The river and

adjacent lowlands could be

filled and paved with stone to

provide ample attractive park-

The recent Pembroke com-

possesses some pretty forward-

hinking minds. How about

problem at a stroke.

ing for all comers.

# An unfortunate comparison

I AM grateful for Thom Gorst's ppreciative remarks (*Rostrani* July 4) about the exhibition 'London: Images from the Modern City" at the Heinz Gallery, of which I was organiscr. I would just like to make two points about his conclud-

ing comments. He compares removing the roof from a Routemaster with stripping the parapet cornice from Goldfinger's Trellick Tower, but there are fortunately plenty of complete Routemaaters still around (and I certainly think n few should ultimately be preserved, preferably in the forecourts of architecture schools), while both Trellick and Balfron Towers have been

Letters should be typed deubte-spaced on one side of the sheet and sent to: The Editor, Building Design. 30 Calderwood Street, Landon SE18 6QH. truncated during the muddled process of handover from the Greater London Council to the boroughs. Thus no complete example of this design now survives to receive the appreciation which the passage of time should in due course bring to it.

Concerning the inclusion of mages from the early Modern Movement, the intention was not to show that post-war British architecture is "derivative", but rather that the formal qualities we are often ready to admire in pre-war Continental designs are often present to some degree in postwar British work, but pass unnoticed. "Derivative" is in any case a questionable term of obuse: I can see no objection to adopting a good idea developed clscwhere. The nnly questions nre whnt problems it solves and how well it is done. Jomes Dannett London SW7

#### Save the Routemaster

CONGRATULATIONS to Thom Gorst for his timely comments on the Routemaster bus. Is there anyone interested in a campaign to persuade LRT, not simply to conserve these buses, but to actually make some more? Their efforts to replace it seem to be singularly ill-fated, but there is a rumour going round that they plan to phase out the Routemaster by 1990, If this is true, it would be a

Another vehicular phenomcnon apparently under threat is Bicknell & Hamilton's British Rail Maintenance Depot, which sits between the Harrow Road roundabout, the Westway and the Regent's Canal just south of Little Venice. This building (see .4D January 1969), always a popular landmark (it has appeared in several films, although, like Stockwell Bus Garage, it is ignored by Jones & Woodward's Guide to London Architecture) has acquired an interesting afterlife since ita use for a huge multi-media event put on by the group test department as part of the GLC farewell

festival. Test Department tell | planners today I am sure it me it is to be demolished, presumably to make way for Seifert's enormous Royal Oak development, but despite several hours on the phone I have been unable to confirm or deny this. Does anyone know? Does an vone care? Patrick Keltler

#### Money after manure heap

From Potrick O' Keeffe IF the object of the letter from the director of planning at North Hertfordshire District Council (July 4) was to warn us off recommending to our clients that they demolish liated build ings as they please, then he is right senses would suggest that anyone should break the law.

But equally if he is trying to gain our sympathy for the sort o trashy old rubbish which is llustrated with his letter, then 1 am afraid he is equally wasting his time. How anyone can consider a manure-heap of o building such as that shown as worthy of listing is beyond imagining. If such a hotch-potch of design were submitted to the

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material on the law of profession

regret that the initiating on pondence so sharply chies the semi should in the car stances have come from would be turned down. Age alone does not make a building worthy of preservation and it is time that about 50 per architect. cent or mnre ni the listed mildings were removed from

the register. This would enhance the status of more worth

lumped with the mass of tutty Grade II listings. dialogue The North Hertfordshire District Cnuncil should be

factually incorrect.

the role of either of thew het

indeed we have never to

asked to submit the schere

However, during the derd

ment of the design, represer.

ives of both bodies were

enough to meet us inform

and let us have their comes

During the same period

nuturally consulted the G

architect and members di

planning committee. We k-

given full consideration toth

comments and have ada-

ledged in our scheme a man

of the points made during?

dialogue, but the design in

detailed farm as published

whally nur own and relless:

synthesis of Burchys' requi

Source of

confusion

From George Wright, Cei

Matthews Wheatley Archina

I CAN understand Mr My

sulm's confusion (July 4.1

cumpany shand of cours

been referred to as CMWA

Onc of the judgesia and

Competition for a theat!
Amsterdam is not North

Foster (News June 27) but I

have confirmed been approached to bid it

they are not proceed

takeover plans.

nents and the demands of the

them for approval.

to opprove our design.

From TG Brawn, GMW Page aslinmed of spending hardearned ratepayers money on so I WRITE in response to a kg from Kenneth Miller (Joly which comments on the Gla

#### **Education at** point of use

unworthy n cause.

Patrick O'Keeffe Tenterden

buildings which are at present

From Professor Douglass Wise director, Institute of Advances Architectural Studies WAS naturally interested in M

H Critchley's letter (June 27) commenting on the predominance of conscrvotion and rehabilitation topics in the York Institute's 1986/87 programme.

What he said is partially true, but it does not recognise the fact that approximotely 75 per cent of the cpd work of the institute s now not York-based, but is concerned with planning and delivering education to a very arge number of professionnly under our "office-centred"

learning scheme. Over the last few years about 2,500-3,000 professionals a year have participated in our programme the length and breadth of the country. By taking education to the point of use we can provide a service which is closely tuned to the needs of the offices, is relevant, cheap and

Because we have to he selfinancing, our York-based prugrainme is related to what we now we can maintain in the open market, and is essentially speculative. If Critchley wants a service for his office related to his perceived need he only lins in insk, and find the modest resources required. Deuglass Wise

#### Support for the semi

George Wright Cambridge Errata • Form Design Groots the prehiteets for the land being put up by the Rhotel Self-Build Housing Associa in Wopping, and not as state

It is just untrue that "the majority of the semis built in the nid-war years never had an architect anywhere near them", since the house-type was evolved, designed and illustrated by e iamous 1919 Tudor Walters committee and report, and later nousing manuals. A committee

over parts of the North Thames Regional Health ority architects departments have asked us to point of Unwin was a key member. What is true is that the cheap TO THE

The excellence of the basic

In the circumstances, there-

# Is RIBA turning a deaf ear?

From Ion Finloy, choirman, RIBA Community Architecture

HARNESSING the energy. enthusiasm, determination and skills of local people and professionals, including architects, is the essence of community orchitecture. It is a belief that by Partnership proposals for new Barelays Bank header crs building I have no comm operation with the oltimate to make nn Miller's viewson users of projects a more positive. happy and self-determining scheme, he is perfectly ent. environment will emerge. One to his opinion, but I do six of the essential ingredients of correct nn insplication in l what is being termed the "botletter, and possibly also in toms-up approach" is that the nriginal report by BD, which professional has to be accustomed to listen and toke on The implication is thus board the views and requirescheme has in some way he ments of client groups who approved by the Royal Fire hitherto have been passed over Commission and the for and "designed for" in the GLC Historic Buildings D traditional 20th century "wc ision. As we understand it's

know best professional way". Many architects have been prectising community architecture for some considerable time and an increasing number arc doing so. How sad then that the RIBA director of public affairs, David Atwell, should choose to "rubbish" this approach in his recent column (June 20).

The Community Enterprise Awards at the RIBA offered one of the few opportunities for community-based groups to come into the institute building and rarer still gave the chance to one of the award winners to express his views. This final speech was heartfult ond clearly born from the struggles to succeed with a communitybased project.

The experience of the Derry Inner City Project is common to community architects and user client groups alike, hence the virtual standing ovation that Paddy Doherty's speech reccived. His point, that local people are having to take the initiative to rehabilitate buildings previously designed by architects in the traditional 20th century monner, ought to be

taken in a positive way. I submit that we ought to be actively considering how the profession should change its approach to accommodate such general public views to demonstrate that local people and their architects and others, can find o common purpose and can work together to improve local com-

The last thing we require is the RIBA administration closing its cars to such passionate pleas; the institute was established to be learned and in the present climate ought to be demonstrating that it cares ond is prepared to listen instead of attempting to squash "Joe Public's views". Perhaps Bullding Design

could have a positive role to play in this debate. Why not a regular column written by user clients where they could relate at first hand their views on profesaionals and when their involvement has been positive and orchitecture. It is a belief that by welcomed, why this has been so working closely and in co- and what form this support has

#### Rendered speechless

From Andrew Brown READ Ron Macdonald civilised article"Teaching Technology" (June 20) with interest I conclude that Ron Macdonald is a Scotaman who has not strayed far from Glasgow where craftsmen know how to apply external render. His selection of the Mackintoshes' Hill House it Helensburgh as a model for "appropriateness" of design is astonishing to this Somerset architect. Anyone in this part of he country who specified

parapet gables with the render wrapped over the tnp of the structure would have to be out of Andrew Brown Highbridge

# Action on

From Alan Woods, housing development choirmon, London Borough of Camden

rendered chimney stacks and

RE your news itcm "Portable heaters renew gas risk", tJune 13): on July 9 a special meeting was held between Camden conneil and the tenants' associaion to discuss fully the problems on Hawkridge. It was ogreed at that meeting to turn off the gas supply and by the end of the week the gas had been turned off and tenants supplied with new electric cookers, fires and kettles. The meeting decided to defer structural work until all the options had been examined

nore closely. Officers are now preparing eomprehensive report on the building's future. All aspecta of the block will be taken into account including the cost of works to combat excessive heat loss and to bring the block up to modern standards as well as to make good the structure and ensuring that building and fire regulotions are mct. The total cost of making the block a safe

then be compared to the cost of demolition and replacement with low-rise housing. We are undertaking a trawl of

the rest of the stock to satisfy ourselves that there is no possibility of a similar situation existing unnoticed elsewhere in the borough. The other issue that we are looking into is whether or not we have legal grounds for a claim against the DoE. Camden acted in good faith after the Ronan Point disaster, having been told twice by the National Building Agen-

cy that the block was safe for gas. I do not wish to alarm tenants or to suggest that I am necessarily advocating demolition. How-ever, I intend to leave no stone unturned. However small the risk to tenants may be, any risk of this kind is unacceptable. Alan Woods London NW

#### Plug in and switch on

From Grohom Wenman IT is sad, though understandable in terms of world evolution. that the Soviets should decide to double their nuclear energy programme over the next 15

and pleasant place to live will years, after Chernnbyl.
then be compared to the cost of But at least the British Gov-

ernment has decided to interm use of geothermal energy. to the total of £26.8 million. As we are all floating on 8,000 miles of molten lava, this must pay off by the mid-21st century when surface fuels have run out. Once "plugged in and swit-ched on", mankind may at last

be in a mood to concentrate on the more permanent problem of balanced world feeding. Graham Wenman

#### Historic mission

From Professor 1' Nett, Hamp-shire Institute of Technology YOUR "News in pietures" article on a Modulex systems building erected at St John's College, Combridge (June 27) prompts me to wonder if the systems building, which your article describes as blending 'highly effectively" in its historic setting, could not be utilised further with several distinct advantages.

Oxford, like Cambridge, has progress on a more rodical scale many old huildings of enor- to show that our universities can

eope with the 21st century? mously thick stone walls. Using the principle of perimeter planning, the subject of many naner from the Land Use & Built Form Our caption was o verbatim extract (now Martin) Centre at Cam-

#### from a company press release, hence the quototion marks around til — Ed. Quotable

quotes

From Chorles Knevitt I AM compiling an anthology of 1,000 quotations on architeeture, planning, design and the construction industry for publication later this year. The anthology will include hoth humorous and serious topics, the obscure as well as the

Many of your readers will have favourite maxims, aneedotes and passages from pre-viously published works. If they would like to share them with a wider audience I should be delighted to hear from them. giving the original source or title and details of where they first

oppeared, wherever possible. Credit will he given to all those whose comributions are petition has shown that Oxford

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providing interior designers, with a working tool which sets out all the volume devoted entirely to specification clauses. The six volume set is supplied in a library box. Price \$57.50.

#### **BOOK OF THE MONTH**

Space on Earth — Arebitecture: Poople and Balldings by Charles Knevist The heavily illustrated book of the current Channel 4 series takes a fresh look at some key issues of architecture and planning over the last 100 years: cities, skyscrapers; mass housing; conservation, and future trends, inetuding community architecture. Price £9.85 (poperback) £16.45 (handbacks, Inc. P+P.

Handbook for Clerk of Works (Third Edition) by GLC Department of Architecture and Civic Design. This

Third Edition provides step-by-step

uidance on the carrying out of all the guidance on the carrying the duties of the Clerk of Works. Price \$12.05.

22. Architects' Data by Ernst Neufer. Available for the first time in paperback, this well-known design guide offers over 400 pages of building types.

Written to advise, guide and horribly in claims orising from professions

eadable, Price £17.55.

house design has in fact been architecturally recognised in guises other than neo-Voysey. Eric Lyons' Span houses of the 1960s, for instance, were a wellknown example.

forc, my basic aympathics are with the sentiments of support expressed by Messrs McCain and Wigg (June 6) and, perhaps,

From David Austis MY OWN working experiences with building surveyors have always been rewarding and enjoyable so I hape W McChin (June 20), who declared that particular professional role us part of his nrgument, will therefore necept in good faith correcting comment from n mere architect.

of which architect Raymond

and, low inflation, speculative housing explosion of the late 20s and 30s leaned licavily on the exploitation of this officially approved house-type but, more often than not, without the benefit of the architect's site layout or constructional super-vision. More's the pityl And hence the tattyness and aesthetic banality of ao much suburbia.

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MIL

AN experimental solar cell project in Ireland is being used to provide the power for milking a herd of 100 dairy cows.

Design by architects Scott Tallon Walker, the 555sq in installation, named the "Fotavoltaie Project", provides a 50k W photovoltaic array as an integral part of the roof of a new calving unit sited at Fota Island in County Cork.

The most unusual aspect of the schenic is the way in which the 55,500 solar cells have been positioned on the south-facing ronf of the calving unit. The eclls are packaged in glass modules in groups of 20. These modules are then bolted onto a steet framework supported at 45deg by a concrete block structure 54m long and 15m high.

Most other photovoltaic installations rely on banks of solar cells, each about 1 or 2m souare, arranged on the ground,

Scott Tallon Walker partner, Niall Scott, explains: "The farm is located in an especially sensitive rural location, so it had to fit in. It also made a lot more sense doing it this way. By grouping all theeells together we created a 'free' roof for the calving unit and the battery stores underneath. This solution looks much better, works well and has proven to be very costeffective."

Photovoltaics is the direct conversion of light to electricity without any internediate mechanical stages. The conversion is carried out in solar cells made of silicon, the same material from which microprocessors and other electronic chips are made.

The solar cells are connected so that they generate about 350v DC. The energy is stored in lead acid batteries located at the rear of the building. The battery bank has a storage capacity of 600 Amp hours at a voltage of 268. This is sufficient to supply the electricity needs of the dairy farm for two days in the summer and for up to one week during

1

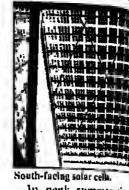
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Source of heat treatment.



in penk summer time system generates about high

mates, of the effectivenes

Powering a dairy farm dairy farming being an impant Irish industry, the exsame seasonal variations. in the summer (when the sr out II than during the wints

A specially designed a: computer, located intheme room, monitors theoperator the complete system. This surea that the solar cells ope. at their highest efficiency it ensuring that each indick unit is protected from fault also takes data on the open of the system and automaki records it for subsequentant sis by the EEC. In this se future stations can bedeup: to he even more reliable : efficient.

Research & Development of EEC. MFT (Federal Republic Supply Board, the Nation nology, the Irish Departmen Industry & Energy and Free versity College of Cork.

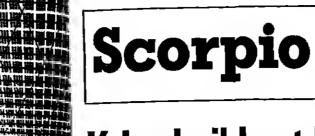
Architects: Scott Tallor Well Dublin and London. Strate-engineers: Ove Arap. Dable: Cark. Cantractors: O'Bens. Bulldings, Hishepstown Elec-contractors: O'Donovan Medic Elec, Dummmeay, Main con National Micro Electronic swarch centre: University Cork, Solur cells supplied

per duy - morethan double farm's needs. An invene therefore been fleed some excess can be fed into the Electricity Supply Roads.
The aim of the Follows

Project, one of several six schemes being funded by EEC, is to guin expense. Europenn latitudes and, medium-sized photovely power systems.

chosen as the Irish decstration project for as vil demand of most farms hs. available sunlight, with un. as 16 times more milk prode

The project was built with linancial support of d Directorate General for San Germany), the Irish Electro-Board for Science & Tal



# Krier builds at last, a long way from home

LEON Krier, the snock-named Luxemburger whose plans for the South Bank died on publication in Blueprint nearly two years ago, is at it again. But this time it's in the American capital, Washington DC.

Grandiose notions are being STRANGE that in anaccording to a Krier masterplan which we can expect to see later this year.

For those unfamiliar with the scene of such great epics as Watergate, poverty and dereliction surround the impressive buildings of state. But all these evesores will disappear if approval is given for endless colonnades and meaningful facades.

Whatever happened to the architect's famous maxim: "Those who build don't think, and those who think don't build?" A thing of the past? Or, perhaps, a prediction for the future of his plan.

 Another Krier project — this time likely to be built — is for a wealthy Argentine in his native country. Constructed in timber throughout, it features "Regionalist" clapboard elevations l ant assured.

#### Scene and heard

THE Royal Gold Medal committee really must take more care infuture to select recipients whose names do not present problems to the temporarily dysicxic.

Readers will remember that Bill, the RIBA greeter, had to point out to the letter earver inscribing Richard Rogers in the marble hall of fame at Portland Place, that the architect had no "d" in his name. Emergency measures were taken to get it right at the second attempt.

Ticketa for Tuesday's presentation ceremony to Japanese medallist Arata Isozaki came with a similar spelling mistake - two s's. Anyway, the press office can take comfort in the knowledge that a past-president with the RIBA Library on how to spell his name correctly in the first place - such was Isozaki's fame before the award.

nouncing his plans to give London a Ponte Vecchio of its very own, Richard Rogers made no mention of the alternative plan. I refer, of course, to the second stage of Terry Farrell's ambitious plans for Charing Cross Station

• WHICH will be the next practice to go the same way as D Y Davies and McColl Wheatley in seeking a listing on the USM market? Canary Wharf backers David Allford and Brian Henderson of YRM, rumour has it.

• RIBA president Larry Rol-

land has been gearing himself up for this week's conference in novel way: fishing in Scotland rather than fishing in Portland Place - for sources of leaks to

#### Trimming the CloB's beard

PLANS are afoot to replace the ineffective Group of Eight construction industry lobby with a more representative Building Industry Council. Prime movers are thought to be builder Norman Wakefield and the ubiquitous Fred Lloyd Roche. How RIBA secretary Patrick

Harrison deals with this threat will be awaited with keen interest, not least by the DoE. Will he attempt to trim the Chartered Institute of Building's ambitious sails - or singe executive John Hooper's impressive beard?

#### 10 years ago

CALOR Gas heating and cooking appliances are being used on housing estates where town gas was outlawed after the Ronan Point collapse in 1968. Many of the appliances are supplied by social services departments to needy families whose electricity has been eut off. Bullding Design, July 9, 1976.



#### Sect's bizarre night out

Who are these jolly people enjoying a sight of revelry at an annual Christmas bash? All 80 were "entbrailed by a monologue", followed by a "tableau vivant" that had them all in attiches. "It was all so atmospheric and conviviat," said one of the party. If things are like this at all Georgian Group meetings (yes, it's them) I shall seriously consider switching my allegiance from the Victorian Society.





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Now, fourteen years since its introduction, we are making it even better.

The notch technique of jointing, ploneered by Marley Plumbing in 1959, is still the only method which allows for sontrolled expansion and unitable on without leakage or risk or joint separation. The cutter strap is now replaced by retenting allow integrals. The cutter strap is now replaced by retenting allow improved climing the even better aesthetic to all the controlled and expansion at lengths of pure the easily and adout stelly controlled on the social strategy and adout stelly and adout stell and adout stelly and adout stelly and adout stelly and adout stelly and adout stell and adout stelly and adout stell and adou



#### Conservation

# **HISTORY** SECURED

Tony Aldous describes how three redundent buildings have been recycled end brought back into prectical use — an ideal conservation epproach which should be repeated.

IF anyone challenges our formed into a rural centre for new environment secretory with being luke-warm about conservation, he can at least produce evidence of good

works within the family. Nicholaa Ridley's elder brother, the fourth Viscount Ridley, has certificates to prove it. On his 4,000ha Blagdon Estate tnxidermy, the manufacture of north of Neweastle-upon-Tyne, Lord Ridley recently carried out the aympathetic but eminently practical recycling of a group of redundant farm buildings at Milkhope. These he trans-

light induatry.

The con version — earried out by the estate's own clerk of works, Gavin Wiaeman manages to keep the character of the pleasant 1860s atone buildings, formerly part of Blagdon's Home Farm, while adapting the m for auch varied activities as eane furniture, maintenance and repair of chain-sawa, packing and marketing of smoked aalmon, games and other up-market foodstuffs, and the making up of soft furnishings.

The Milkhope Centre's 30 unita range in size from 28sq m up to 465sq m, are let at very competi-tive rents, and have provided

> lan Forster is a furniture restorer who trained at the London College of Furniture, worked for an established crastsman locally, and then decided to set up his own business. He has 70sq m, provided like the other units as a shell with electricity and water

some 50 jobs in an area certainly



him to fit and finish to his own requirementa. For this he pays £20 a week plus rates. His unit, which he had on a five year lease, provides him with workshop, storage space and a smalt

He is very pleased with it, though ideally he would have liked a large opening door at the other end of the unit to fit in with his work flow. Not having it is the price he eoncedes has to be paid for keeping the existing pattern of doors and fenestralaid on but otherwise leaving tion in his three-bay elevation.

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Thanks partly to aelective

demolition, Wiseman was able to re-use anlyaged stone and slates for alterations; doors and windows keep the proportions and aimple down-to-earth character of the original buildings; aimplicity is likewise the hallmark of roads, paths and landscaping. The cost of the conversion of

this collection of animal houses, barna and other farms buildings was aomething over £60,000, towards which the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA) gave a grant of 12,500. This has allowed the estate to keep rents down to the levels which were judged to be within reach of starter businesses. All were taken within weeks of brother Nieholas, then tranaport accretary, opening the eentre in April. Milkhope has indoubtedly gained from being within easy striking distance of Newcaatle and only about five niles from Neweastle Airport.

WHAT is a heritage centre? The concept is becoming ncreasingly popular ns a usc for empty buildings of various kinds, but just what such a centre contains and how it is put together can determine success or failure.

Simply putting what a decade or two ago would have been ealled a "local museum" into a redundant building to prevent it from decaying or being demoliahed ia almost certainly too negative and unappenling a recipe for our crilical and

sophisticated nge. The most successful centres contain a number of ingredients which serve real and previously unfulfilled local needs. Thus, Faversham's pioneering Fleur de Lya Centre (a furmer pub) earns ita keep by providing, in

addition to displays about history and economy of town, a place where tourste go for information and bot lets, posteards and so o Chester's (n former school)bx tourist information centre. cafe, and lots a pay-phore Liehfield's (a parish churchia to the townscape but, with the cathedral just up the road, big for present congregator performs five present rob heritage display, coffee the old people's day centre, too shop, and residual chaps expandable for civic occasion into a further chunk of the

This spring has brought least two more honours. additions to the heritage congazetteer — at Weston-suge Mare and Wirksworth - bu the iniatives of local car societies. Wirksworth's begr as the civie society's contri tion to the successful tos revitalisation project mount seven years ago by the Ca: Trust and local organisation The centre's aim was both provide for the lively "interpr tation" of the town's history visitors and residents, and serve as a cornerstone for t refurbishment and revitali tion of an area of decaying backland north of the market

You follow a lane out of # murket place, under the gens ous Georgian entringe archo former coaching inn. He encouraged by the impeture the herituge centre project. number of craftsmenhavest in previously empty or misused premises: a enbinet make n pieture-frnmer, a silversmil The lime curves roundtos ling space framed by the head (Crewn Yard Kitchen), 201 smithy which should always be in business.



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The history of Weston-super-Mare is a centre theme

sion also grant-aided this etc-Weston-super-Mare Civic Society has in recent years mude

extensive use of Manpower ral Heritage Services Commission labour in what is now un area of retatively high unemployment, tremptoys nıncil, Pilgrim rusts, und other one MSC tenm in its office, and has had others working un s), with a prize design and construction of interpretative displays, repair of tandscape in the town, and repair of its own building. It runs eme as a training exercise for the ciates.

building and landscupe teams

The civic society has now taken the lead in setting up a building preservation trust, the Weston-super-Mare Trust. which is restoring a redundant Baptist church with associated hall and out-buildings further along Wadhum Street. They will become a community centre. The Architecturat Heritage Fund and MSC labour are again involved, and the architects for the scheme (as for the heritage the nrchitectural salvage seli- centre) are Niall Phillips Asso-

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Entar 16 ENCLY CARD

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town, a place where touristion go for information and book lets, postcards and so or Chesier's (a formerschoolibut tourist information ceour. cafe, and lots a pay-phone Lichfield's (a panish churchin to the townscape but, with the cathedral just up the road to big for present congregation performs five present to neritage display, coffee the shop, and residual chapt

least two more honount additions to the heritage can gazetteer - at Weston-wax Mare and Wirksworth - be the iniatives of local ca. societies. Wirksworth's kg as the civic society's contib." tion to the successful tos: revitalisation project mount. seven years ago by the Ch. Trust and local organisation The centre's aim was hold: provide for the lively "interpa tation" of the town's history visitors and residents, and

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history and economy of the

tocal customs such as well dressing and "clypping" or surrounding the parish church; (first floor) Georgian Wirkswarth in its heyday, the moot court (which arbitrated disputes between lend miners), and a computer game "Resenc the injured minerl": and (second floor) n woolly thing discovered expandable for civic occasion in a Wirksworth quarry and the into a further chunk of the "houseplace" or cottage of a 19th century quarryman as well This spring has brought as literary connections with

George Eliot's Adam Bede. Repair and conversion of the Silk Mills and construction alongside of a new cafe building were the work of Derby architects Derek Lathmin & Associates (job architect Martin Sutchille). Their client, in succession to the Civic Society, was the specially established Wirkswurth Heritage Centre Trust. which met the total cost of £160,000 partly from grants (English Tourist Board, English leritage, Development Comserve as a cornerstone fort. mission, county, district and town councils). The contractor refurbishment and revitairs tion of an area of decapit was a local firm, R J Noble & backland north of the mult

> The cafe, e spacious singlestorey building, was provided as a shell and put out to tender, Derbyshire County Council conservation architect Barry Joyce, who has been Wirksworth prnject officer and is a resident and a teading light in the Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust, then found himself in an awkward position. His wife Flora wanted to put in a bid. On what may be called a "Caesars" Vife" (or perhaps "Portia's husband") principle, he went to some trouble to eall in indepen-

General view of the Milhope centre,

dating from the 1840s though

the ground floor is older. Its

displays, by local designer Rob

The actual heritage centre is housed in the Old Silk Mills, a dent assessors to examine the tenders. But in the end Flora's was the only bid: no-one else three-storey stone building seemed to think the place would pny. It has - covering its capital outlay for equipment and furni-Barlow, cover (ground floor) shings inside the first year.

> WESTON's heritage centre is e red-brick former teiloring shop warehouse and associated stables, in Wedham Street near the town centre. When Weston-super-Mare

. . . . . . .

Civic Society took it on, it had water running its way ruinously from a leaky roof to the ground floor and was well on its way to becoming a hopeless case. Now the restored frontage of dark red bricks with stone dressings and terracotta gable makes it a handsome element in the street scene, and some people who thought it not worth keeping wonder why they took that view

opened last May by the director of the West of England Tourist Board, is only me of six sets of activities going on in the three-storey 1890s building and its cellars, owned and run by Weston-super-Mare's lively and go-alread civic society. Occupying most of the first floor, i contains displays not only about the history and development of the town but also on the Mendip

Hills and the Somerset Levels On the ground floor are a cafe (named Cornish's after the builder/developer who put the building up, and like Wirksworth's, let out as an independent enterprise); recentioncum-shop for publications and souvenirs (Weston Mud at 20p a packet), and the society's conservation shop. This is a place where building owners and others can come for ndvice on sympathetic repair or upgrad-ing. It has an excellent "rights



Mtikhope Centre tenants - chain-saw experts.

and wrongs" photographic display and ample examples of correct materials - for it is linked to the society's architectural aalvage operation, started at the invitation of Woodspring District Council and accommodated partly in the Wadham Street cellurs, partly in a quarry on the edge of the tuwn.

The building's tnp floor is partly in use as civic society Place competition going tuoffices, partly occupied by a firm interpretive proposals which of cinema nnimation specialists - though in the longer term this area is earmarked for a craft and the Countryside commis-

centre. The society met the £150,000 cust of purchase, repair and conversion partly by mortgage, partly by a loan from the Architectural Heritage fund, partly from a multitude of grants (English Tuurist Board, HBC, district enuncil, Pilgrim and Dulverion Trusts, and uther local entirihaturs), with a prize in the Civic Trust's Pride of

words implementation of the



The history of Weston-super-Mare is a centre theme

sion also grant-aided this ele-

Weston-super-Mare Civic Society has in recent years made extensive use of Manpower Services Commission Inbour in what is now no area of relutively high unemployment. It employs one MSC team in its office, and has had others working on design and construction of interpretative displays, repair of repair of its own building. It runs won it. The Carnegic UK Trust the architectural salvage schemens a training exercise for the

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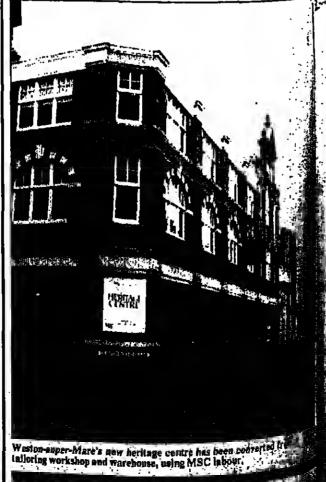
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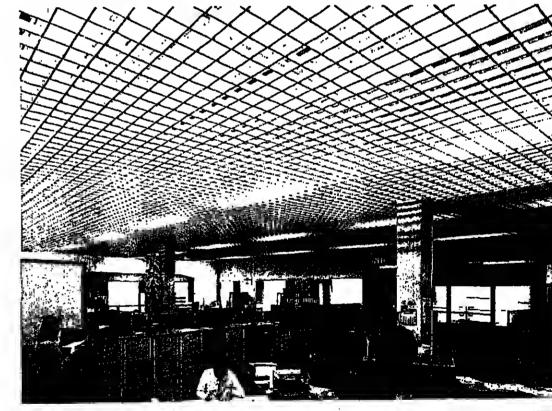
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Oskar Kokoschka's work displays a caasalass agitation of vision. Robart Harbison reviaws an axhibition of his paintings and drawings at the Tate Gallery.

LIKE some of his Austrian compatriots Oskar Kokoschka is an anomalous figure in the history of modern painting. It isn't quite true that no French painter ever really crossed his ield of vision, but certainly one would need to peer hard other appropriate figures like at the catalogue of the Adolf Loos, Karl Kraus, and current Tate exhibition to Schoenberg), Kokoschka is a find much reference to

And Kokoschka doesn't fit very comfortably in the history German expressionism. Those artists from the past who

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Kokoschka was incredibly exeited him make a ragged melange: Van Gogh, Maul-bertsch, Munch, El Greco, talented and went on developing throughout his exceedingly long Velosquez, all daring innovat-ors, and all, except the last, wild career - he died at 94 in 1980 and his last pictures show the amazing fresliness of vision men to our eyes. often found also in his verbal Like his contemporary Musil impressions of people, and (whom he seems not to have

known, though he knew all the The real sticking point is that he never even considered throwing over representation. For him painting remained a medium of widely cultivated traditionalist, and a frightening radical at the vision and sensation, the way same time. Perhaps just fright-ening enough: Thomas Mann one conveys one's understanding of reality. Not that there aren't some bizarre means for found him everything a modern conveying how things look, but painter should be, a careful they never end in the marks on

the canvas. In the margin portrait of Kraus from Vine horizontal in format likethet one of Loos from Berlin, welblack scrawls round his me

the dislocated blobs in Vi squez, these joits age smoother surroundings in much. The place one is most likely to catch him nodding is in into a unified vision at a cen. focal length or concepts eityscapes. One sees better remove. Reality has, it is the why these always-elever scenes flown to pieces. Shrapnelown are sometimes soulless when one the ground and drips from the learns that Kokosehkn hopped trees. But when one's vive from hotel to hotel, accomadjusts, the scattering sem panied by his dealer's repreentertaining, almost decomits, sentative, finding city after to paint. This procedure was first like a dynamic thread in this which has hithertoescapedon. devised in Europe in the early 20s, then extended to other

decades and continents. The nearest comparison to Kokoschka is perhaps Lovis

Corinth, the most interesting

Max Beckmann, and one of the

selling differences between them

Kokoschka's energy. He was the

most perceptive of observers, and the fact that his own features

migrate more often to his sitters' faces than the Irith demands is

not a fair indication of his

interest in, or understanding of

There are wonderful portraits

the exhibition from every

stage of his career, displaying

the scraped and emaciated

World War (in 1910 he did a

other neonle.

eir habitual subject matter. From very early, portraits and andscapes consume the bulk of

like hits of Asiatic script. is

The danger, I suppose, is that one will feel Kokoschka is just art). His painting calmed down to blotches which look more doing it, is producing the tranquil but express in a differliveliness on demand because it ent key that ceaseless agitation is time to concoct a picture. But of vision which is his trademark he has a much higher percentage From the 30s two of the best of successes than most who paint, write, or compose so

are self portraits, especially the over life Kokoschka and the "Degenerate Artist" painted on the eve of coming to England, which I would use as the test of one's feeling for Kokoschka. He dicinted to him by circumstance compared it to a Chinese landscape on which one could become a fly and experience 1,000 pnintings in one, usif every square inch contained the whole world of it, or gave a vantage for re-seeing all the rest from that

It is a lesson which could be applied to many paintings which less explicitly invite it, but I think Kokoschka is a great discoverer in having realised so intensely the positive potential of such localisation of one's attention. So this non-cerebra painter presents us with surface on which every speek him been fought and thought over.

Portraits and landscapes seem the subjects which are nosubject, or barely structured stuff. At three points in his life Kokoschka underwent a bout of subject-painting — each well represented in the exhibition. In 1911-12 he produced a series of small religious pietures harking back to stained glass, around th outbreak of the Second World War, some grotesque allegories





Girl with doll, 1921-22.

then, at the very end, he painted a few images of mortality like parodies of devotional themes. more of this kind of thing. Kokosehka wouldn't have been Kokosehka if he had been

(whom he happens to meet, who will pay for a portrait except in a the pencil or pen. few confined episodes of extreme stress. Yet there are few painters of any time who could keep one as thoroughly diverted

coressi does not do eredit to, and and surprised as Kokosehka and the 120 paintings in this exhibition. The drawings, on the other liand, just as numerous, are something of a disappointment. Kokoschka saw in flashes not in lines. The paintings, much more complicated, almost nevercause one to think of the labour which went into them, the drawings, simpler products, make one nwkwnrdly aware of their nianufacture. Kokoschkn is one of the great virtuosi of the brush, not of

"Oskur Kokoschka 1886-1980" is at the Tale Gallery, London SW1 until August 10.

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Mario Rotto on the steps of the Villa VIa Albonago. (Photo: Dennis Sharp.)

· J

OVER the past few years Mario Bolla has established an enviable reputation and workload. Currently he has some 30 projects in his office many of which are under construction and three major publications have recently been issued on his work. He remains an amiable member of his home community in the beautiful lakeside town of Lugano.

Dennis Sharp: Perhaps we could start with your background, and the beginnings of your office.

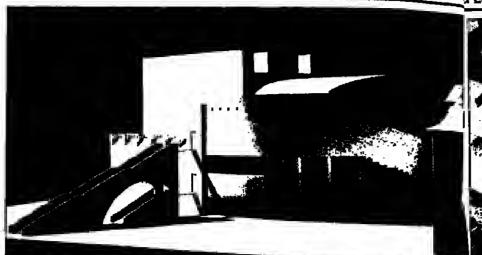
Marlo Botla: Well, I followed a ather odd procedure because after the first stage of my secondary education I went off to work as a draughtsman in the Carloni Studio here in Lugano. became an architectural draughtsman because I did not like going to school.

DS: So how old were you when you wan into the studio?

MB: AT 16 I designed my first house. It is a very wrong and odd house but at least I learned that foundations are below and the roof is above. Besides, it gave me the strongest emotions I have ever felt. When I saw this small house being built I saw that a architect. I understood, also, the

MODERNIS MELA

Ticino architect Merio Botta recently talked to Dennis Marp Morelity, modernism end the influence of mesters like Le Corbusier,



Chambery project, model view showing the theatre adjacent to the Napoleonic Barracks.

piece of nature was being great power of the architect transformed into a new cultural condition. I realised with this house that I was going to be an

because what I had shaped on paper was taking shape in I remember the very moment of the sun going in for the last ime just before the roof was put

rehiteel is to turn what was a ineyard or a field into a new DS: Do you mean through the process of ereation and through ome geometrical or mathemat-

on. The great power of the

eal means? MB: No architect is capable of ransforming thought or geomtry or un abstruct element into reality. Therefore architecture means transforming reality. Architecture is modifying nnture, it is the struggle of man against nature. It is, before utting stone upon stone, puting stone on earth. I felt all these things with that first house and I decided to become an architect. After a period as an apprentice I went to the Liceo Artistico in Milan in order to get the necessary qualifications to be admitted to university. In the nenntime I went ou building. I ouilt the Parish House — it is 25 yenrs old now - mid I am

DS: How did you continue your education and become involved with Le Corbusier, Kulm and Scarpa? After you had moved ou

Above: cutmvny oxonametrical Superiore.

dready an old urchitectly

MB: I chose Venice because it was a ploce of history and charged with memories and also because the architectural inculty was very lively and full of humanistic ideals, it was a sort of reaction against the Swiss echnical polytechnics where everything was technical and "technique". I am convinced that architecture is not a trelinical act, it is not an aesthetic act; architecture is a moral act. In Venice I found a lively cultural milieu. At the si there were Benevolo, Samona, Tasuri; all those in the history department who kept alive the 12.45 humanistic notion of architecture. Then there was this big character Carlo Scarpa with whom I immediately worked despite the fact that he was a difficult man. When I did my thesis with Scarpa there were 700 students and I was the only one that worked closely with him. He seemed to me a person able to give me something. In 1969 I got my degree with Scагра.

Two characters came lo Venice in the 1960s...Le Corbusier in 1964 during my first year of architecture and I simply told myself if I am here to study architecture and Corb comes here, then I must jump on the bandwagon. If one really wanta something one eventually gels it. I had this experience with Julien de la Fuente who opened n studio to work on Le Corbusier's hospital and we worked there before I went for a short period to 35 rue de Sevres in

Maison de la Culture, Chambery, France, won in a competition in 1982 and now under construction.

DS: Stopping with the hospital for a moment, may I ask you what Le Corbusier's involvement was with Julien and the others in Venice? Was Le Corbusier completely in control of the project or were they?

MB: Corb only did small sketches in the rue de Sevres and Julien earried out the project.

DS: That is what I thought.

MB; Then in 1969 Louis Kahn came and I hooked myself on to

DS: Why was Kahn in Venice?

MB: For the Palazzo dei Congressi project and I joined in through Giuseppe Nazzariolo, o historian who had organised the visits of these figures and was connected with Corb, Kahn and Scarpa. Now with three such masters I am condemned to

DS: Is it possible to summarise the things you have learnt from these three masters and how these have moulded your own

MB: I think that Corb is a monster...like Picasso for painting...like Klee. Every single architect of our gen-cration is indebted to Le Corbusier; Corbusier is the history modern architecture in its positive and negative aspects. Therefore his expacity for transforming everything into erchi-tecture — economic questions life problems, the problems of society, the problems of man -

DS: In an urbanistic sense?

MB: At every kind of scele. would say that Corb, with this idmiration of bout, note planes, technology and his ability to bring everything to the scale of man - from urbanism to the object - had the ability to wrap the forces of industria

MB: Well, I was attracted by this sensual plastic force, his capacity of always being able to confront o place, a landscape . . he always had the sense of the right measure, of the right scale for every environment. When he designed a city on the drawing board the design of the city itself was confronted with the landseape. When he designed Ronchamp he confronted the hill. I think of Corbusier as a great genius beenuse he transformed the possibilities and even the contradictions of society into space. Every social happening of man, became, for him,

DS: And Carlo Scarpa and Louis Kahn - did they offer purething different from that?

MB: Another lesson. The most important thing I learned from Louis Kahn was to seek the origins of problems; every single problem was a question, it was never a technical fact but a moral one. "A school", Kalin used to say, "is two men talking together under a tree". The essence of communication and shelter was the huilding.

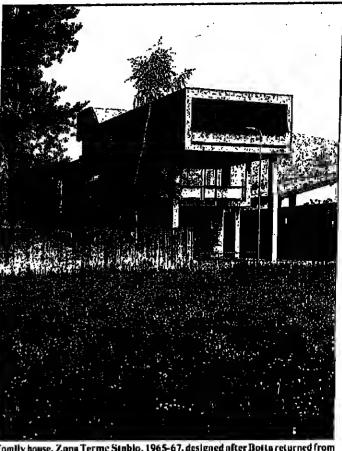
society and to transform them

DS: But what are you taking

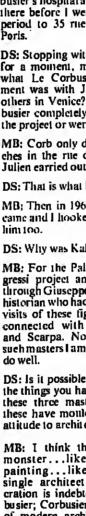
into space.

from it?

DS: But this is essentially Greek idea.



Fomily house, Zona Terme Stablo, 1965-67, designed after Botta returned from i.e Corbusier's studio in Paris.



attitude to architecture? Below Ville in Morbio Succession of front elevation (Photo: Lorenzo this I think is his great lesson.

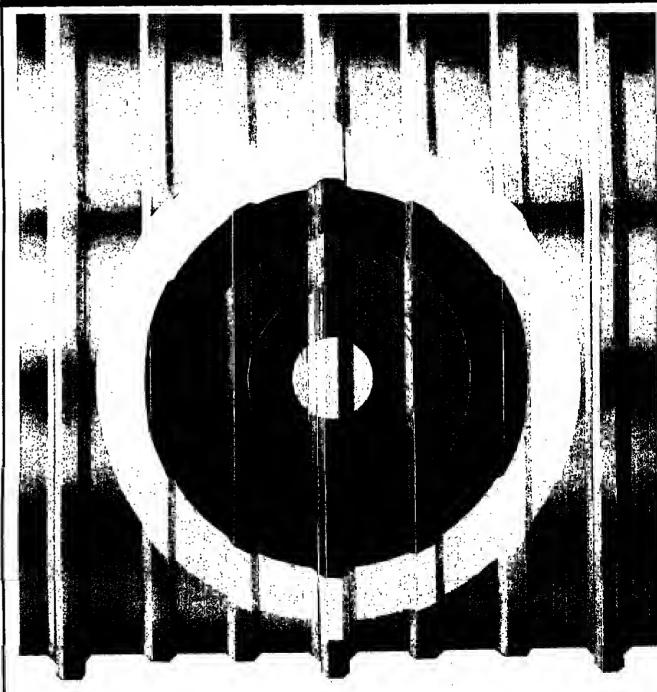
There is a good story that when the first strikes started in Paris after the war and lots of people began to strike in the streets, Corb heard the noise He asked Andrecieni, his administrator, "What is happening in the street?" All these inch going on strike and getting involved in revolutionary move ments, all these people become ing aware of the needs of man. and he turned ond said, "finolement la rue au pietons" ("at lass the street is for the pedestrian") So his enpacity of transforming even a revolutionary fact into architecture represents his great lesson for me.

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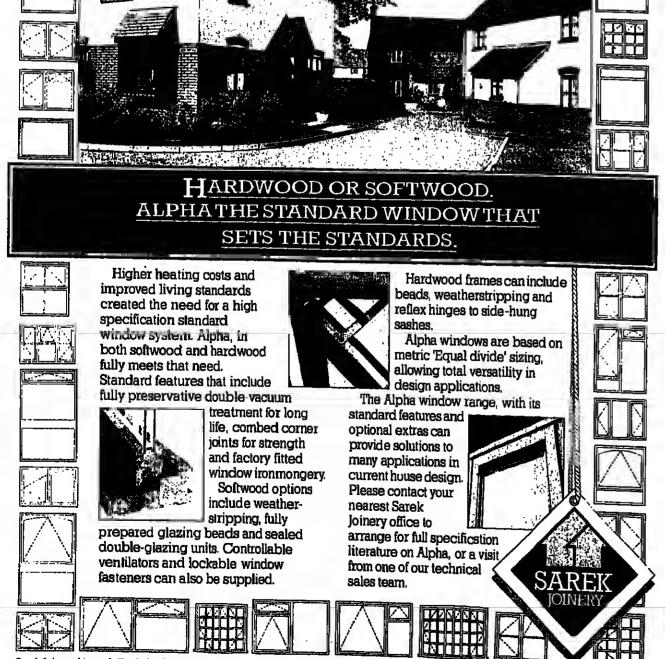
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# Modernist melange

MB: Yes.

DS: So does that mean that n moral question is also a historic one? Perhaps we could say that moral questions have a hiatori-

MB: Yes, but let's say what struck me about Kahn was his ability to go beyond the facade of questions and to look right into the things of mankind for the onswers. Therefore with that fact he was able to introduce elements of history and memory as part of his projected planning

DS: As planning parameters? that is interesting - not as

MB: No, like quantitative or functional data - nnd in the same wuy. Curlo Searpa, on the contrury, showed his great sensitivity towards materials. It seems to me that in every case Scarpn questioned the ninterial and the materials themselves gave him some maswers. He had this capacity of making mai-

DS: This is a curious mixture of architeets some of whom had a formal attitude and now you describe as being far more sympathetie to materials and therefore for more interested in acteristics of those moterials in an organie sense. We know that Searpo wos a Wrightian type of architect so, could we say - and t see it is a provocative statement in a sense — that in your own work there is a combination of rational, geometrical, historical and organic traditions and that this brings together the friends of Modernism: Le Corbusier, Kahn, Searpo and Wright?

MB: I would like it to be so.

DS: It is of course an absurd theory but it is like a chentical experiment and while I am trying to over-rotionolise the situtation there is, I sense, o chemienl process going on in terms of the ideas too, isn't

MB: Yes, but t believe that tudny's society is a sort of summary of all these traditions brought about by the various

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DS: But those traditions are in fact modern traditions and that is what I am getting at. So therefore even though there may be a melange or a mixture (or a chemical reaction if you like) how do you see this relating to the trends of the last 10 yeara. How is it that you have been able which appears to be part of that tradition yet absorbs many of the more recent theories?

born nn architect, you become one and you become one through the work of others. Therefore the sub-stratum of the cultural inheritance within which I work is the inheritance of the modern movement, of organic architecture, of Corb, Kahn ond Scarpa. The consumer society has only supplied technical comfort and man needs for ntore than that. He needs emotion, he needs to see himself as again in control of a certain space. I helieve that modern orchitecture is o rhetoric of technology. I don't think that materiula, such as those tech-

nical muterials used to go to the

moon, can be used to build

MB: I believe that one is not

that we have been to the moon but we have not been able to give better houses on earth. All of us recognise that the historical city possesses more qualities of life thon the modern city - so perhaps we should think again about this running awny with progress that filled us in the 960s and 70s and fall back vithin ourselves to understand the real needs of man. So t think that the organic tradition, and the ability to abstract of the modern ntovement, this geometrie force, this relationship with history and memory of Louis Kahn, this sensuol pleasure in the material and the relationship with work by mon that can be found in Scarpa, ean all fit in an orchitecture of today.

DS: Do you make any differentiation between the kind of architecture that you design in a rural situation and the kind of architecture that you produce for an urban situation?

MB: The basic attitude is the same but the conditions change: one is a relationship with the conditions of nature where any new intervention must confront tension, a tension between the new nad the existing. The other is an artificial environmen

houses for man. The proof of it is niready transformed by man.

version, in the orban situation?

MB: Yes, in a certain way it is but there is always the will to tronsform a pre-existing balance into a different balance and l think it represents a privileged place for architects because the city is the place of most con-

DS: But it is also the place where most existing geometries

MB: Yes, the city is for the architect a bit like the museum is for the painter. It is a place of comparison with things that have already been done.

DS: So in a sense your archi-

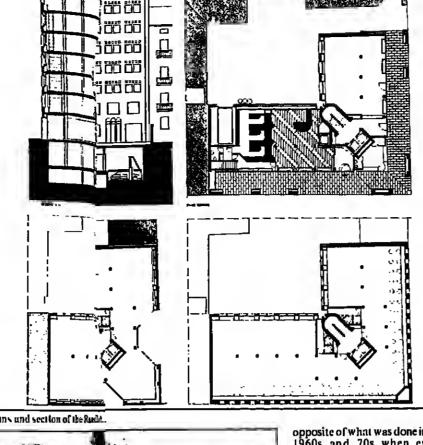
tecture then has to fit a certain configuration which we can see for example in the project for the thentre at Chambery, Indeed, a number of things that we have looked at have shown the difference hetween the rurat landscape in which architecture is a kind of sculpture and the more controlled urban situation which suggested a mild inter-vention. Could we take the theatre at Chambery first and talk about the geometry you are proposing which is so different from the courtyard of the existing building?

MB: Well, let's take three exnntples, starting with Chambery. The theme there was to reintegrate the old Napoleonic barracks outside the lown with the historical fabric of the city. t thought I could salvage it physically with the entrance towards the town so that the whole of the courtyard of the barracks would become the outside foyer and when one enters the old barracks themselves this becomes the entrance space to the theatre.

There is a spatial re-use of the old barracks and the new theatre contrasts with the old fuende to give it strength and to create a tension between this old facade and the new hody. There is a minimal give and take. The old barracks need the new cylindrical element in order to nequire strength as a straight element and the new cylindrical clement would have no meaning in a field, takes strength through being tensioned. Thus it transforms the way one reads the old. Going to the theatre becomes a walk through history; one goes into a Napoleonic building through the entrance hall where one can see an old structure with great vaults on the ground Hoor. then you given through a glazed foothridge and you rediscover the town as you cuter the foyer. which is a kind of circular crown to the new thentre. And to anderline this tensium — between the old and the new there is a sinull passage which brings one bock to the town. There will also he different colours, the new alt red and the old all white so agnin I think the new building will give strength to the old. And the new clement has been rolated, only the line of the town was found, when it und again its balance with the nearby texture of the town. when it found its point it found

The idea of feeding the reading of the old through the new is to me very important, there is a relationship of mutual give and take. All this for the city but also for the small houses in

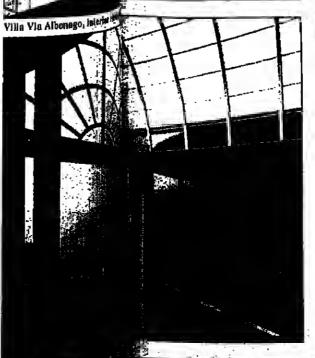
The accoudexample I want to take is the new building in the centre of Lugano. When I built this building on the corner I felt it could only be in this particular place, becouse it answers the square on the diagonnt and gently connects with the odjoin-ing fabric. The building sels oul two different roles: il wants to tink with the adjoining fabric but it also wants to underline ita exceptional position on the corner. In a certain aense it is the pullding that goes back to designing the city — exactly the ... View towards La



Plans and section of the Rucht.







poosite of what was done in the 1960s and 70s when every building was isolated and neutered as far as the city went. The city building comes back os an element, a physical element to rebuild the city. t believe today that we can only build for or agoinst the city, one builds for the city when the building returns to form part of the geography of the city and when becomes aware of its particular place. I like to sny tha architecture is not an instrument to build any place but it is an instrument to build that place t becomes part of this element which becomes a micam in the whole world, it changes itself with physical and historicol

DS: Are you tolking about this really in terms of a building's location in a town the size and the scale of Lugano or are we also talking about Paris, London and New York?

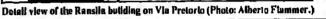
MB: Any scale. I believe each town has its own history and its own geography and its own place to be reinterpreted. This office building is also full of history, it takes up again the idea of the brick that was used in the building opposite . . . And t can quote a third example, a villa where there is more contem example the great sloping landseape of this area is confronted by one single large facade looking towards the valley.
The house is the Casa

Viganello — Viganello is withir the boundaries of Lugano — ao this large facade is a bit like the facade of the old house set on the hillside. It describes the house itself, because the other sides are more celebratory, more rhetorical because it tells of this one sees a dome that opens tnwards the sky. Atso a house have built at Morbio Superiore is right on the top of the hill and provides n sort of articulated ink between the flat landscope with the church behind and the great landscape below. This house therefore articulates two geographical conditions and it becomes a house with n lorge eoncave facade, hugging the landscape, o algn of light towards the sky and a sign of shadow towards the earth. The whole facade is o vibration to eatch the light, an optical rador The house is grey and I have

painted the 45deg bricks in silver to catch and reflect the light so that the building appears to change during the day.

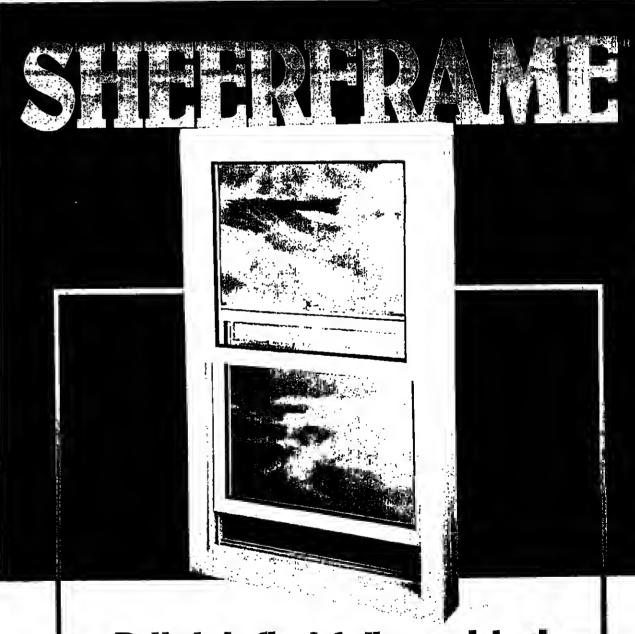
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Runstia office building, Lugano 1985 (Photo: Alberto Flammer.)



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JAS STRUTTON & SON LTD Paga 24	Enquiry no 26
DOOR CLOSER	
PERKINS & POWELL Page 2	Enquiry no 2
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BUILDING 86 Paga 9	Enquiry no 11
FIRE PROTECTION	
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	PARTITIONS	
nquiry no 26	ACORDIAL (UK) LTD Paga 20	Enquiry no 21
	ROOFING	
Enquiry no 2	IMI BRODERICK STRUCTURES	Enquiry no 17
_	Paga 16 MERSEYSIDE PLUMBING CO LTD	Enquiry no 4
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	Pega 17 STRAMIT INDUSTRIES (UK) LTD Paga 19	Enquiry no 20
nquiry no 11	VENTILATION	
	TITON HARDWARE LTD Paga 36	Enquiry no 28
Enquiry no 6	WINDOWS	
	HAT ALUMINIUM SERVICES LTD	Enquiry no 7
	Pega 6 L.O. PLASTICS LIMITED	Enquiry no 23
Enquiry no 8	Pege 21 SAREK JOINERY LTD	Enquiry no 19
	Paga 16 THE VELUX CD LTD	Enquiry no 15
ngulry no 14	Paga 14 THE WEST LEIGH GROUP LTD	Enquiry no 25

#### Clean bill of health for bathrooms

SET up a year ago as an alternative route to BS 5750 quality assurance, rather than that provided by the 651, the Ceramic Industry Certification Scheme (CICS for short) initially concentrated on the producers of elay bricks and tiles. Now news comes from its Stoke-on-Trent headquarters that its more recently launched scheme for the bath room and sanitaryware industry is going

great guns.

A fready six companies have joined the scheme and they collectively represent at least 70 per cent of the UK manufacturing capacity for bal broom equip They are Allia, Armitage Shanks, Ideal-Standard, Johnson Grothers,

Ideal-Standard, Johnson Grothers, Shires and Twyfords.

These companies clearly see the third party certification provided by CICS as being a powerful marketing tool. The scheme is administered by an independent governing board which has been constituted to satisfy the requirements of ISO Guide 40 and the National Accreditation the National Accreditation
Council's criteris for Certification
Bodies. Its composition is made up to represent all the interests involved in certification, with representatives from governmen departments, manufacturera,

Shallow chambers

suppliers, standards organisations, professional institutions, specifiers,

isers and consumers. It is gratifying to see the strength with which CICS has got off the ground. Alternatives to the BSI route are clearly very necessary. otherwise QA will sink through administrative constipation. Be for the QA scheme to gain the recognition it deserves, it needs to have enough takers. On one year's showing, it seems clear that CICS is not going to suffer from a shortfall of manufacturers, whether of bricks, tiles or sanitaryware, applying for its CICS logo of quality.

Tables

HERMAN Miller has recently launehed a new range of tables -Catano. These are intended to be compatible with its Action Office, V Walls and senting ranges. Miller asked designer Dragomir Ivicevic to prinduce a range of tables which covered the needs of every area of the office, from the board room to the reception area. In addition, the ndividual tables should be equally at home as standalone units or linked together to form different

New products

Complied by Herold Hudser

Enter 103 ON EXPISES

#### Windows

AS a result of a particularly severe window replacement contract carried out for the Dover District Council, Piper Windows and Extrusions has introduced a new range of double-glazed upve replacement windows. These are lesigned for use in buildings exposed to extremely strong winds and in test have been shown to withstand wind pressure equivalent to the force of a 137 miles per hour

Emer 100 ON EXPRESS Enter 104 ON EXPRESS

Air-conditioners



FLAT ROOFING EVODE maintains that its ensional stability of glass fibre.

#### CoverGuard package deal provides the high tensile strength of polyester and the flexibility and elasticity of rubber. Its base sheet is glass reinforced and SBS modified; removes all the worries from the its cap sheet is polyester reinforced for flexitral fatigue resistance and longevity. There is also a torch-on SBS modified venting layer, which Supplied and installed by the same company, Evode CoverGuard is based on an avoids underlying stressing, and a custom-designed layer of Tekurat insulation. There are four granulelastnmeric torch-on sheet system with a performance far in advonce of many HP felts, and yet one which has been tested in extremel severe situations for at least sever A truly integrated system, Evode CoverGuard combines the

fines 107 CHEADILLE

# Readers' Free Advertisements

Entries should be sent to Building Design Free Classified Service, 30, Calderwood Street, London SE18 6QH.

Entries can only be accepted on the classified service form which is included in each issue.

Rates for commercial advertisements will be supplied on request.

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**WOOD COATINGS** 

DONALD MACPHERSON & CD LTD

COST-SAVING shallow access chambers with a diameter of 320mm have been added to the Polypipe range of underground drainage products. The base and three risers give an invert of 600nim, but one riser can be used tinvert 314mm) or two risers (invert 457mm). Fine adjustment of depths can be achieved by cutting the risers with a fine loof

Enter 101 DILEXPRESS



Prestair President Series 3 heat pumps and air-conditioners for in vall mounting. There are five unit - two air-to-air heat pumps (3.10 and 4.82kW) and three sir-cool oir-conditioners (cooling 2.69, 3.81 and 5.51kW). The compact tigh, thus neatly fitting below a vindow sill, and most models are only 200mm deep inside the mon

TEMPERATURE lins launched in

Filler 105 Englither ( Mill)

#### Kitchens

STYLES Kitchens has introduced a nationwide service to architects, specifying authorities and builders. Initially its full range of individually designed kitchens, including appliances, is being offered on a supply-and-fit or supply-only basis within 50 miles of its Basildon factory, and on a supply-only basis outside that area. Styles Kitchen ranges contain 70 different door finishes and over 100 different built-in appliances.

Enter 102 ENGUIRY CARO



#### Easy-fit vents

KENFLEX has launched two versions of its Renvent easy-fit entilation system, intended for use in bathrooms, toilets and showers, or kitchens. One version is a straight through-the-wall system; the second is for use with a flameetardant duct. There is a choice of ully automatic operation with lectronic humidity sensors, or viring into the room's lighting eircuit. There also is a timer control for run-on ventilation

Enter 106 PHOUGHY CARD



#### **WEST LEIGH ADD uPVC** TO 'RETROFIT' **SUCCESS STORY.**

In building refurbishment throughout the country West Leigh's 'Retrofit' programme is recognised as the high quality, cost efficient answer

Wholever the scole of work

Now West Leigh include their new Centuryon uPVC range of windows and doors as an additional oplion. Mode of West Leights own foctory in ossociolion with HIS Systems Ltd., as approved by the Consortium of Local Authorities Wates, they are ferrous reinforcement and are produced with stim profiles for L.A. Housing or heavy sections for commercial work.

better refurbishment. Phone or write lodoy, to find

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MENDIP HILLS converted barn, percramic

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has recently been decorated. It is close to et amenities and only 16 mins. from Victoria. Rent is £150 pc.m. and half the bits. Daytime phone 01 484 3333 ext 4250. ARCHITECT and his SRH write offer homely accommodation in a newly opposing retirement home in a Lincolnshire village situate in a degionated area of outstanding return and a second second

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September 1

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COTSWOLDS/VALE of Evenhert Beamed cottage in enterming a verside village. Slogos 3. Summer holiday lets. 15 miles Sustiond-on-Avon. Phone for lutther details Eventum 880 313

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graniss built entrye, alsops 2/3; Fully
equipped. Highs storage heaters and wood
burning stove. In an area of outstanding

burning stove. In an area of businessing beauty, both legen; and morphism. With those and pube or depistrap, Prom £50 to £100 per week depositing on season. Pers. welcomed. Tel: Pensanta 785445. Pers. ANNONILL. and Coulous in Tringuil humber about 4 miles from it. Nigion, legange.

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ARCHITECTS HOUSE in Distantam, Marpe 5. Adjorang hat sleeps 2. Bargain holiday si £200 per week, from July 5th — July 19th. or flet separately, available funa 22nd —

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We died with our guest, subtlemial main courses, exotic dessrie and the bast chasses we can find apartifiper Loofiseand minis. Candias say tecs but no ties plasss.

**ORITISH GAS** 

Page 11

CALPE, Costa Sisaca, Spain Flat gyarlooki GALPE, Costs steeds, Spein Hall overlooking marins and beach, 2 double bedingers, lorge lounge, Aschen, bathroom and wc. and separate clockroom, 3 belcontes and gollery, Available Aug. smil 14 September £110a week Tet (200357723).

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SAIL IN OART MOUTH, South Devon soord modern four-beth test cruiser. 5 day or waskends. helidey-cearses, Yes-live shoerd, we take yeu saiting. Write of telephone Jo Buch. 18 Swennston Road, Detimouth Tel-98043 2839

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SNOWDONIA, views of sea, renovers coach house. Sleeps 8-5 plus cot Close batch and mountains. Close amendes, trangul setting. Some weeks available July £130. August £140 p.w. Phons 0482

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WASH BASIN, while, 22" k 18", 26, Tel: 01 784 8638. COMPUTER ORAPHIC ARCHITECTURE Competition of Commodere 45 programs featuring rates "possible of 5 Commodere 45 programs featuring rates "possible plot", maching dade speed, free-hand mode, lines, bosse, arcs, lift, repeat 90 column featuring models plates routing North point, trees, apaie per and dimensioning, Other programs, Graphic displays and on the programs, Graphic 15, 250, 484 per and Instructions.

OMW R65, Poletie leiting. OMW panniers, change of circumstences prompts sale of executive Softide by Chartered Surveyor. 1982 model. MOT to April 1987, SMW maintained. £1.050, Telephone Amerishem.

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PROJECT MANAGEMENT. Overell planning, inception is completion, control and co-ordination of costs and jims, with

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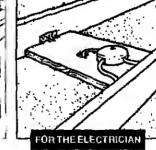
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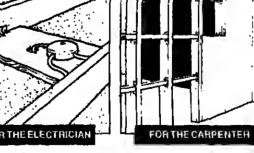
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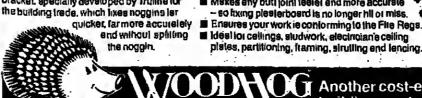




Now there's a brilliant new way to noggins without losh nsiling. Woodhog" is a unique bull join bracket, specially developed by Truilne for

Essylousa - Just knock "Woodhog" into the end of the noggin, then hemmer the engled spikes into the joist.

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**upvc** WINDOWS

WL

Head Office 11-13 Spa Road, London, SE16 3RB Tel 01-232 0030 Telex 898834 Tel (0222) 887505

#### New products

#### Plastic windows



FEATURING narrow 87mm sightlines, the new Schueo Vartan 60S upve window offers outward and inward opening options, plus a turn-and-tilt format. Despite the smallness of its frame the Vartan 60S provides more than adequate strength and stability, satisfying the stringent UEATC standard. These windows will accommod 20mm double glazing or 6mm

Enter 108 ENQUITY CARD

#### Security display

The new colour graphic display unit for fire and security control centres, introduced by Cerberus will in the event of an alarm, produce an outline diagram on the colour monitor with the location of the alarm in red. Once the field is marked with a light pen, the picture changes to show the section of the building from which the



the only concrete tile

to combine all these

violet rays.

surface water drains freely, so ideal

chance! No need for support rings.

walkways -- anywhere where traffic

is heavy, Indoors or out, wet or dry

resists heat also and inhibits algae

asphalt and felt bases against ultra-

growth. A protective barrier to

distinctive top surface imparts

standard colours (grey, red, buff,

have proved effective in protecting

asphalt and felt roofs against

promenades, car parks, etc.

padestrian traffic. Equally long lasting in terraces, precincts.

much cheaper to buy and install

reinferced tilt – lests longer too

than an asbesios cement or glass-

terracolta and ivory; others to

special order). Consistent

throughout tile's lifetime.

interesting appearance. Five

for walking areas and equally for

landscaping - gives plants a

sale in shopping precincts and

features\_\_

POROUS

NON-SLIP

FROST PROOF

**DECORATIVE** 

DURABLE

**ECONOMICAL** 



#### Distinctive lettering

Temporary buildings

IN order to provide interesting. exciting and new typefaces on instant lettering sheets, Letraset Export has introduced the Letragraphica Premier range, in which the typefaces have been necially commissioned by Letraset from a series of Internationally respected designers. Over the coming weeks, this library of typefaces will grow with new styles





ISOFLEX Liquid Rubber, recently acquired by Sterling Roncraft, is a high-performance single-pack urethane elastomer waterproofer supplied in a ready-to-use liquid form in black and aluminium. It produces a membrane with a high solids contents, high tensile strength, durability and storage

PURPOSE-designed buildings with a life of 20 years, have been introduced by Copris Systems, the

company which previously specialised in flexible extensions

and dock shelters. With a fabric-

covered galvanised steel framework, Copris buildings come in sizes from 50 to 5,000sq m and

full height and width doors are

Enter 110 ON EXPRESS

standard parts of the system.

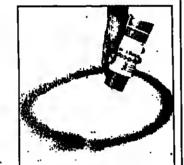
Liquid Rubber is flexible and ean t applied to practically any surface.

Enter 112 ON EXPRESS

#### Marking paint

GIVING vivid markings in 13 colours, including fluorescents,
Trig-A-Cap marking paints from
Fox Valley Systems are ideal for
spot marking. They are dispensed
by means of upside down aerosol
cans (340g) which each gives up to
100m of marking. There is a sixyear guarantee on the aerosol to empty completely and not clog; also you get a free belt box with each three cases of 12 cans.

Enter 113 OH EXPRESS



#### Dormers



FOREMOST Mouldings of Bloxwich has extended its range of eustom-moulded window surrounds to include dormers in any colour and to various patterns Easy to install, light in weight and with low maintenance, these grp units are made from BIP Chemicals' Beetle polyester resins. They have a Class I surface spread of flame to BS 476; Part 7 and are Class 0 to the Bullding Regs.

Enler 114 ON EXPRESS ENOURY CARD

#### Thermohygrometer

DESIGNED for those requiring fast, accurate measurement of temperature and humidity, the new portable 455 Thermohygrometer from Solomat IM incorporates a four-and-a-half digit liquid crystal lisplay. Options include either two-channel voltage or twochannel 4-20 mA current outputs for use with chart recorders and process controllers.

Enter 115 ONEXPRESS



#### Air cleaner



LOVAIR is a new fresh air system or washrooms, canteens and offices, introduced by R & J Lovell. With its extra thick carbon inter, it absorbs odour and smoke and can dispense scented gels to perfume the eleansed air. The unil lough, durable, easy to clean and is filted with a quiet-running fan. It can be powered by the lighting circuit, requiring only a 3Amp fuse. Gels and filters last for bout loar months.



#### Draught seals

BECAUSE of the difficulty of specifying the precise type of draught seal which would be most effective without actually holding it in your hand, Neilson & Barclay is offering a free pack of samples of its Wintun Weatherbeater scals to specifiers. Three Wintun thresholds and a number of different jamb seals from the Jumboseal for large industrial doors to the Varigroove for recessed or applied fixing — all are included in the Wintun pack.

Cell ceilings

1111

HUNTER Douglas has published a six-page brochure to introduce its

a six-page brachure to introduce its new Luxalon Cell ceiling. This egg-crate ceiling is available in six cell sizes — 75, 86, 100, 150 and

200mm - and the brochure gives full details of the components

in a wide range of standard colour

Dense aggregate concrete building blocks

COMPLETE technical details of

the Trubioc range of dense aggregate concrete building blocks are contained in a new four-page

leaflet, published by Tilcon. Standard Trublocs are suitable for

use below ground, in internal fire

walls or in party walls where sound insulation is a necessity. Special high strength blocks are also available, as well as blocks with

Enter 125 ENGUIRY CARD

Bathroom bits

RYTON'S has published a six-page

leafiet illustrating a new range of

bathroom accessories. They include the Balmoral collection of

light oak, walnut, beech and a white painted finish. These are complemented by the Wellington

beech or wainut and the Beaufort

Enter 126 ENGURY CARD

three-piece range, which also comes in light oak and mahogany

Enter 124 PHEXPRESS

Biocks

Of THEOD

dingrams illustrating the simple ver ingenious, support system and a short form of specification. uxalon Cell ceilings are available

#### manufacturer and builders' Enter 123 ENGLISHY CARD

The package of products on which this new advisory services based include the well-establish woodenre products of Ronsel Wood Repair System, Ronsel Vnrnishes and Colron Wood Die mpany is taking on a new image is in this intent, has introduced a Translac Varnish, Ronseal Fencelife, Ronseal Exterior Work This separate division of Sterling Roncraft will deal exclusively with the requirements of the

SPECIFIERS' SERVICE

Enter 117 ON EXPRESS

#### Cladding

STERLING Roncraft has been

know for many years as a supplie a wide range of consumer style

DIY products, many covered by he Ronseal trade name. Now the

and, in order to show how serious

Technical Development

architectural and local authority



MANUFACTURED from upon material with a BBA certificate which verifies its Class O spreado flame rating, Aaronson Broker 100mm wide profiled upvc cladding can be fixed to battened vertical or horizontal surfaces. inside or out. Units are tongued and grooved, double skinned and require little or no maintenance.

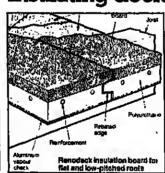
Enter 118 OILEXPRESS

#### Insulation nails

DESIGNED permanently to fix nll ypes of insulation material to nasonty or concrete bases, the winail from Ewis is manufactured in two grades of stainless steel austenetic 304 and ferritie 430 and also a galvanised mild steel. E winails are supplied in four engths (50, 90, 110 and 140 mm) and all have 36mm diameter heads. Their stems are intended to be iriven into 8mm diameter drillings. Chia 119 ENGINEY CALL



#### Insulating deck



ISOCRETE has introduced Renodeck, a decking with insulating properties and bulen heat sink for timber joist roofs. Reinforcement in the rebated onneds which make up the ded illows them to span 1,200mm and their tongued and grooved edge profiles avoid cold bridging. Renodeck combines 20mm of herapernt H S perlite board with required thickness of polymets Enter 120 ENGURY CARD

#### Security cylinder

CONSTRUCTED in solid brass with satin brass and satin nickel shes, the T-10 Serles of high security Euro-profile cylinder locks from Erebus come in three models - a single cylinder, double cylinder and a cylinder with thumb turn. They incorporate 10 hardened bronze security pins with five opposing pins and are designed to defeat attacks by drills.

Enter 121 ONEXPRESS

#### Tough carpet tile



DE VEL OPED specially forust a golf club locker rooms, where will be required to withstand the onslaught of studded and a footwear, the near repet tiles from Burmales and a polypropylene and 15 per can polypropylene and 15 per can nylon. Thay can be supplied a colours and they have an extra thick Anchorite backing been engineered to give constability.

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

#### Technical literature

#### Open ceilings

Wintun

REPORTS ON DEADLER
SATTIPLE PACH

pt .......

PROBABLY the most successful of the Magnagrid family of eight open-cell ceilings from Formwood is Magnagrid 9. For this reason Formwood has published a new tott-page colour brochure which explains its composition, applications, colours and finishes. Magnagrid 9 is made from a lattice of folded U blades of light weight aluminium to give a clean, erisn aluminium to give a clean, erisp appearance. Blades are 9mm wide and are linked together to form rigid panels. These are located into hangers and cross runners to form the complete



#### Shelving

MONTA shelving systems for commercial and industrial applications are featured in a new It-page brochure from Britynzeel Storage Systems. Many capitations of the helping are applications of the shelving a illustrated and detailed information is provided on the many coordinated accessories which are uvailable. Shelves are

Bruvnzeel

Shelving Systems

Tales 128 CHEXI-HESS

# There's only one predictable feature of the British is unpredictable feature of the British is unpredictable. There's one minute it's warm winds from the Sahara and the least it's icy blasts.



The flexibility of Macpherson's Flexic Margin od coatings copes with these extremes.

Increased elasticity allows the pulnts in acquisition and contract with the wood substrates, virtually eliminating cracking with legrea retimicroporosity prevents blistering and liaking causeblicy displays in a unicity.

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users. Many building designers don't make provision when they draw up their sketch designs. Here Henry sees what's needed now. Next week he reveals the contents of the proposed new Approved Document.

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Details: Cerolin Tidbury (0865) 64777.

Energy beyond 2001, conference organised by the Four Professions Eastern Region Energy Group. Norwich Energy Management Group and the Energy Efficiency

Venue: University of East Anglia, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts,

Details: Regional Energy Efficiency Officer (east), Department of Energy, 01-211 6192.

Monday-Wednesday Block laying course, or ganised by thierpaye, the Concrete Block Vanue: MSC Skillcentre. Torrington Avenue, Coventry, Detotls: Mr R Vickers, Interpave,

One-day programme of coordination management seminors organised by the Association of Researchers in Construction

Canagement, to follow its annual general meeting. Venue, The Department of Building Engineering, UMIST, University of Manchester Details: Dr A R Duff, (061) 236

Wednesday Oullding for busicess, lunchtime talk by Roger Zogolovitch, organised by the Urban Design

Group Venue: The Milner Group, Ground Floor, New Turnmill Development, 63 Clerkonwelt Road, London EC1, 12,30pm. Details: Clerkenwell Festival, 01-

Wednesday Promoting your practice, a seminar organised by RIBA Services. Yeouer RIBA Services, 66 Portland Place, London Wt. Details: Charlotte Dale 01-637

Energy world nod housing design, seminar organised by the RIBA Housing Advisory Group, Venue: RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1. 10am-4, 15pm. Cost: £46 including VAT. Details: Tim Blackburn, RIBA, 01-580 5533.

#### Exhibitions

Tomorrow — August 31
Philip Wilson Steer: paintings nod
writercolours, exhibition organised
by the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Venue: Cartwright Hall, Bradford. Detalls: (0274) 493 313.

July 14-16 Central School of Art and Design MA and BA iodustrial design degree Venue: Institute of Directors, 116 Pall Mall, London SW1. Mondey

- 10 mm

@

Ipm to Spm, Tuesday and Detalls: 01-405 1825

July 14-August 1 Art in erchitecture, organised by commissions agent Jeremy Hunt and architects Derek Lethom

Venue: St Michaels Gallery, St Michaels House, Queen Street, Derby DEI 3SU, and Derek Lathem & Associates, St Michaels, Derby. Details: Jeremy Hunt (0602) 470674 or John Goom, (0332)



Today until July 15. York to New York, an exhibition of the drawings of Alan Cameron Venue: Ibotock Orlekwork Design Centre, Sharptkorne, Wext Hoatkly, Friday-Triesday 9am-5pm. Details: (0342) 810678.

Juty 14-18, 1986 14th PRTC summer nanual meeting and exhibition Venue: University of Susxex, II righton. Details: 01-836 2208.

July 16-17 Exhibition of work of students at the Inchbald School of Design. Venue: 7 Eaton Gate, London SWI, 10nm-5.30pm, Details: Inchbald School of

The Impact of construction on The Impact of construction an expression, a design workshop in the series Reading Architecture, organised by the Polytechnic of North London. Venue: The Polytechnic of North London, Holloway Road, London N7, Room 131, 10om.
Detalls: Jon Finlayson, 01-607 2789.

Until July 17 Natural stone display including the winning and commended entries to the 1985 design awards for natural

stone. Venue: The Building Centre, Manchester, 113-115 Portland Street, Manchester, Details: 01-636 7122.

Until July 20 ACA salon at the Royal Academy, the fourth becamial salon of the Association of Arts. Verue: Royal Academy of Arts, Details: Jeenne Radford (0272)

Until Juy 20 Cecil Beaton at the Barbican. Venue: Berbican Art Gallery, Barbican Centre, London EC2, Detalls: 01-638 4141 (ext 306/346).

Paul Sayers, an exhibition of kis painlings. Venue: Holland Gallery, 129 Portland Road, London WII. Detailn: Renske Mann, Holland Gallery 01-253 203 (day) 01-727

Until July 20 Exhibition of the winners and other selected entraots to the RIBA International student competition. Venue: RIBA, 66 Portland Place, Detalls: 01-580 5533 (ext 4120).

Annual oxhibition of students' work, at the Polytechnic of Central Venue: Polytechnic of Central London, 35 Marytebone Road, London NW J Detallo: 01-486 5811.

People

Building Design Partnerskip have relocated and consolidated their three Manchester offices. The new address is Sunlight House, Quoy Street, Manchester M3 3JY. Tel: 061-834 8441.

#### Subscription details

Building Design is published weekly and aent free of charge to registered architecte working in the UK and eelected membere of ellied tradee. Subscription rates: one yeer £30, oversees \$80, single copies 60p. Orders to: Subscription Dapt, Morgan Grampian (Construction Prese) Ltd, Morgen Grampian House, Celderwood St, London SE18 6QH (01-855 7777).

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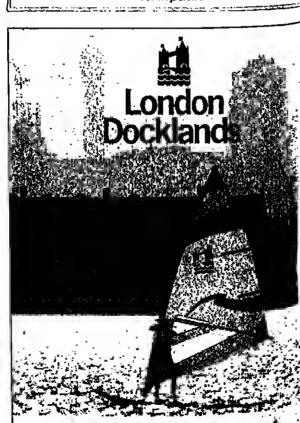
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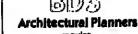
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Completed applications should be r by 28 July 1988. **Borough of Erewash** 



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